



With him or against him, Trump looms large over Election Day

By CLAIRE GALOFARO,
MARTHA IRVINE and
SHARON COHEN

AP National Writers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)

— Michael Gregoire marched along a downtown sidewalk in the tense days before the midterm elections, waving a hand-painted sign at passing traffic: "DEFEAT REPUBLICANS 2018."

"The survival of the country is going to depend on this election," he said as another man stopped for a moment to argue. The strangers faced each other from opposite edges of the great American divide, Democrat versus Republican, both convinced the election is among the most consequential in their lifetimes and that they must save the nation from the other side. "I'm voting for Donald Trump," Stuart Kanter said.

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In this Nov. 2, 2018, file photo residents vote early at the Douglas County Election Commission office in Omaha, Neb.

Associated Press

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Economic realities moderate Trump's hard line on Iran

By MATTHEW LEE

AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Trump administration was caught between allies at home and abroad and the reality of global economics as it reinstated sanctions Monday on Iran, forced to carve out exemptions for important allies and back off on measures that could have been even more punishing for Tehran.

The U.S. granted waivers to allow China and seven close U.S. partners and allies to continue importing Iranian crude and other petroleum products without penalty, bowing to concerns that a complete end to Iran's exports would cause a major spike in world oil prices and cause other economic disruptions.



This combination of two pictures shows U.S. President Donald Trump, left, on July 22, 2018, and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani on Feb. 6, 2018.

Associated Press

tions. Trump conceded that reality on his way to a last-

minute campaign event a day before critical midterm congressional elections.

"We have the toughest sanctions ever imposed but on oil we want to go a little bit slower because I don't want to drive the oil prices in the world," he told reporters. "I could get the Iran oil down to zero immediately, but it would cause a shock to the market."

The newly reinstated sanctions target Iran's energy, financial and shipping sectors and are aimed at forcing Iran to end ballistic missile program and end its support for armed movements throughout the Middle East.

The measures restore all the U.S. sanctions that had been lifted under the 2015 accord that gave Iran billions of dollars in sanctions relief in exchange for curbs on its nuclear program, a deal that Obama administration critics had argued was too soft on the Islamic Republic.

In reinstating the measures, the Treasury Department imposed penalties on more

than 700 Iranian and Iranian-linked individuals, entities, aircraft and vessels. Among those are 50 Iranian banks and subsidiaries, more than 200 people and ships, Iran's state-run airline Iran Air and more than 65 of its planes.

The sanctions freeze any assets that those targeted have in U.S. jurisdictions and bar Americans from doing business with them. They will also affect non-Iranian companies that deal with sanctioned Iranian firms and officials.

Yet, while the administration seeks to cut off Iran's oil revenue, it is allowing Greece, India, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Turkey to continue purchasing Iranian oil as long as they work to reduce imports to zero.

"When I look at the list, it's obviously very large economies that still in many ways depend on Iran oil imports and at this time don't have any strong alternatives," said Brian Katulis, a senior fellow at Center for American Progress, a liberal think

tank.

"This is part of the Trump team's trying to balance its maximum pressure campaign against Iran versus its concerns over where the global prices of oil might go and how that could negatively impact everyone including America. I don't support this policy, but if you are going down this path, it's a way to lessen the risk of economic blow-back in America."

Three of the eight waiver recipients — Greece, Italy and Turkey — are members of NATO.

Japan and South Korea have mutual defense treaties with the U.S. and have a key part in the North Korea denuclearization initiative. India, the world's largest democracy, plays a critical role in the administration's "Indo-Pacific" strategy, which seeks to unite countries in the region into forming a bloc to counter China's growing assertiveness.

All of them lobbied heavily to be granted the six-month exemptions while promising to further reduce or end their imports and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said the waivers were based on the specific circumstances of each and the need "to ensure a well-supplied oil market."

China is the single-largest importer of Iranian oil and forcing it to look elsewhere to fuel its dynamic economy would likely have rocked the market.

For some waiver recipients, domestic concerns were paramount.

South Korea, for example, is reliant on oil imports to drive its economy. It had been consultation with the Trump administration since the U.S. pullout from the Iran nuclear deal in May. □

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ELECTION DAY

Continued from Front

"He's not on the ticket. But, in a way, actually he is." President Donald Trump looms large over Tuesday's election, which is expected to draw historic numbers to the polls and will determine which party controls Congress. For Gregoire and Kanter — and for voters across the country — the election represents something far greater than whatever Senate and House races appear on their ballots. It is a competition for the soul of America — a referendum on Trump and the venomous political culture that many blame for gridlock in Congress and a recent spate of hate crimes and politically motivated attacks.

Less than two weeks ago in this city, a white man gunned down two African-American shoppers at a grocery store in what police described as a racially motivated attack. Days later, an avid Trump supporter was arrested for mailing pipe bombs to prominent critics of the president, all of whom Trump routinely derides as "evil" and "un-American." The next day, another gunman opened fire in a synagogue in Pittsburgh, massacring 11 worshippers and telling police "all these Jews need to die." Don Albrecht, a 75-year-old accountant and Republican who voted for Trump in 2016, lives blocks away from the Louisville grocery store where two people died. He'd pulled into the parking lot minutes after the gunfire erupted, saw the police cars and shaken employees, and felt like the country's poisonous political climate had landed in his backyard. He wishes he could take back his vote for Trump.

"He has diarrhea of the mouth and diarrhea of the brain. He's just so irrespon-

sible," said Albrecht, who worries Trump's embrace of the far-right is remaking his party. "I don't think the American public is going to put up with it. I think there's going to be a big backlash against Republicans because of this divisiveness." He's undecided going into Election Day. He can't remember ever voting for a Democrat but said he might this time in protest. Other Trump voters remain staunchly behind him, and plan to choose Republican candidates to help him make good on his pledges, including vows to implement more hardline immigration policies. "I want to see the wall go up," said Joe Spirko, 57, as he peddled Trump flags outside of one of the president's rallies in Florida last week. "Since Trump come along, I feel a lot better."

Trump has stepped up his rhetoric on immigration ahead of the elections, focusing on a caravan of Central American migrants heading toward the United States. Trump and his backers have called it "an invasion" — though the group of a few thousand people, including mothers and children, remains hundreds of miles away — and suggested without proof that there are criminals and terrorists in the crowd of those fleeing violence and poverty. In a White House speech, the president said he would sign an order preventing border-crossers from claiming asylum, a legally questionable proposition, and said he'd told military troops he's mobilizing to the border to respond to thrown rocks like they were "rifles." Julie Hoepfner, a 67-year-old psychologist in Indiana, voted early for Republican candidates, also citing illegal immigration as a primary concern.

A friend recently sent Hoepfner a photo of immi-



Rose Cathleen Bagin stands on the porch of her home in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh on Tuesday, Oct. 30, 2018. Squirrel Hill was recently the scene of the worst attack on the Jewish community in the nation's history. The retired social services worker says Donald Trump has poisoned the nation's political life, and she is working to make sure Democrats regain some control in Congress in the upcoming midterm election.

Associated Press

grants arriving at Ellis Island with a note that said: "For our ancestors, this is their caravan." Hoepfner didn't respond but thought to herself that her ancestors arrived legally. "Which is a big difference," she said. "They didn't come trying to storm the border." Pedro Panelo, the 21-year-old president of the College Republicans at Wheaton College in Illinois, is frustrated immigration became a last-minute political football, because the issue is more complex than what either Democrats or Republicans make it out to be. Panelo, the son of a Mexican immigrant, said migrants shouldn't be demonized, but he stopped short of criticizing the president, and plans to vote for Republican candidates who could help push Trump's agenda.

"When it comes to his actions, I'm not a huge fan of his tweets," Panelo said. "But what I say is look what he's done for the country and not always what he's said on Twitter." He said he's felt an extraordinary level of enthusiasm for this election among his fellow students. Young people, who historically sit out of midterm elections, and women are both expected to be pivotal forces Tuesday. In Georgia, Democratic campaign volunteer Adrienne White said she struggled to recruit volunteers ahead of the 2016 presidential election but that it's been easy this year, especially among women. In Pittsburgh, where residents just finished burying those gunned down at the Tree of Life synagogue, some voters saw their Election Day decisions as a way

to send a message that the country is headed down a dark and dangerous path. "This is probably the most important election in the past 100 years. This will turn the tables," said Barbara Villa, 71, who with her husband planted a crop of "Vote Blue" signs outside their home. Rose Cathleen Bagin, 77, lives in the same neighborhood as the synagogue. She lashed a sign to her front porch reading "VOTE FOR GUN CONTROL," and she is stunned every time she sees the crowd at Trump rallies on television cheering for his divisive language. "I can't stand the terrible things he says and the terrible things he's doing," said Bagin, who plans to vote Democratic Tuesday. "I'm terrified. We're going to a place I just don't understand." □

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Democrats' hopes high for taking House, but nothing certain



Former President Barack Obama, center, headlines a rally and appears alongside, from left to right, Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendoza, gubernatorial candidate J.B. Pritzker, lieutenant governor candidate Juliana Stratton and congressional candidate Lauren Underwood, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, at the University of Illinois at Chicago, in Chicago.

Associated Press

By **STEVE PEOPLES**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The day of reckoning for American politics has nearly arrived.

Voters on Tuesday will decide the \$5 billion debate between President Donald Trump's take-no-prisoner politics and the Democratic Party's super-charged campaign to end the GOP's hold on power in Washington and statehouses across the nation.

There are indications that a modest "blue wave" of support may help Democrats seize control of at least one chamber of Congress. But two years after an election that proved polls and prognosticators wrong, nothing is certain on the eve of the first nationwide elections of the Trump presidency.

"I don't think there's a Democrat in this country that doesn't have a little angst left over from 2016 deep down," said Stephanie Schriock, president of EMILY's List, which spent more than ever before — nearly \$60 million in all — to support Democratic women this campaign season.

"Everything matters and everything's at stake," Schriock said.

All 435 seats in the U.S. House are up for re-election. And 35 Senate seats are in play, as are almost 40 governorships and the balance of power in virtually every state legislature.

While he is not on the ballot, Trump acknowledged on Monday that the 2018 midterms represent a referendum on his presidency.

"In a certain way I am on the ballot," Trump told supporters during a tele-town hall organized by his re-election campaign. "The press is very much considering it a referendum on me and us as a movement."

He also contended, as he does daily, that if the Democrats win they will work to roll back everything he's tried to accomplish. "It's all fragile," he said.

Should Democrats win control of the House, as strategists in both parties suggest is likely, they could derail Trump's legislative agenda for the next two years. Perhaps more important, they would win subpoena power to investigate Trump's

many personal and professional missteps.

Tuesday's elections will also test the strength of a Trump-era political realignment defined by evolving divisions among voters by race, gender and especially education.

Trump's Republican coalition is increasingly older, whiter, more male and less likely to have a college degree. Democrats are relying more upon women, people of color, young people and college graduates.

The political realignment, if it solidifies, could re-shape U.S. politics for a generation.

Just five years ago, the Republican National Committee reported that the GOP's very survival depended upon attracting more minorities and women. Those voters have increasingly fled Trump's Republican Party, turned off by his chaotic leadership style and xenophobic rhetoric. Blue-collar men, however, have embraced the unconventional president.

One of the RNC report's authors, Ari Fleischer, acknowledged that Republican leaders never envisioned expanding their ranks with white, working-class men.

"What it means to be Republican is being rewritten as we speak," Fleischer said. "Donald Trump has the pen, and his handwriting isn't always very good." A nationwide poll released Sunday by NBC News and The Wall Street Journal details the depth of the demographic shifts.

Democrats led with likely African-American voters (84 percent to 8 percent), Latinos (57 percent to 29 percent), voters between the ages of 18-34 (57 percent to 34 percent), women (55 percent to 37 per-

cent) and independents (35 percent to 23 percent). Among white college-educated women, Democrats enjoy a 28-point advantage: 61 percent to 33 percent.

On the other side, Republicans led with voters between the ages of 50 and 64 (52 percent to 43 percent), men (50 percent to 43 percent) and whites (50 percent to 44 percent). And among white men without college degrees, Republicans led 65 percent to 30 percent.

Democrats hope to elect a record number of women to Congress. They are also poised to make history with the number of LGBT candidates and Muslims up and down the ballot.

Former President Barack Obama seized on the differences between the parties in a final-days scramble to motivate voters across the nation.

"One election won't eliminate racism, sexism or homophobia," Obama said during an appearance in Florida. "It's not going to happen in one election. But it'll be a start."

Trump has delivered a very different closing argument, railing against Latin American immigrants seeking asylum at the U.S. border. With the walking caravan weeks away, Trump dispatched more than 5,000 troops to the region. The president also said soldiers would use lethal force against migrants who throw rocks, before later reversing himself.

Still, his xenophobic rhetoric has been unprecedented for an American president in the modern era: "Barbed wire used properly can be a beautiful sight," Trump told voters in Montana.

The hyper-charged environment is expected to

drive record turnout in some places, but on the eve of the election, it's far from certain which side will show up in the greatest numbers. The outcome is clouded by the dramatically different landscape between the House and Senate. Democrats are most optimistic about the House, a sprawling battlefield extending from Alaska to Florida. Most top races, however, are set in America's suburbs where more educated and affluent voters in both parties have soured on Trump's turbulent presidency, despite the strength of the national economy.

Democrats need to pick up two dozen seats to claim the House majority.

Billionaire former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who personally invested \$110 million to help Democrats this year, largely in the House, has seized on voter education levels in picking target races, according to senior aide Howard Wolfson.

"In this cycle, it seemed as if there was a disproportionately negative reaction among highly educated voters to Trump," he said.

As a result, Bloomberg's team poured money into otherwise overlooked suburban districts in states like Georgia, Washington state and Oklahoma because data revealed voters there were better-educated.

Democrats face a far more difficult challenge in the Senate, where they are almost exclusively on defense in rural states where Trump remains popular. Democratic Senate incumbents are up for re-election, for example, in North Dakota, West Virginia, and Montana — states Trump carried by 30 percentage points on average two years ago. □



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Tribe challenges Corps findings on Dakota Access pipeline

By BLAKE NICHOLSON
Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. (AP) — The Standing Rock Sioux is challenging new government conclusions that the \$3.8 billion Dakota Access oil pipeline poses no significant environmental threats to American Indian tribes in the Dakotas.

The Army Corps of Engineers in August finished more than a year of additional study ordered by a federal judge. The agency said the work substantiated its earlier determination that the chances of an oil spill are low, any impacts to tribal hunting and fishing will be limited and that the project does not pose a higher risk of adverse impacts to minority and low-income people.

The Standing Rock Sioux tribe, which is leading a four-tribe lawsuit against the four-state pipeline built by Texas-based Energy Transfer Partners, in court documents filed Thursday asked a federal judge to reject the findings.

"The corps has conducted a sham process to arrive at a sham conclusion, for the second time," tribal Chairman Mike Faith said in a statement.

The pipeline has the capacity to move half of

the oil produced daily in North Dakota, the nation's second-leading producer behind Texas. It passes just north of the Standing Rock Reservation, beneath a Missouri River reservoir that is the tribe's water source.

The pipeline has been moving North Dakota oil through South Dakota and Iowa to a shipping point in Illinois since June 2017. That same month, U.S. District Judge James Boasberg ruled that the Corps largely complied with environmental law when permitting the pipeline but needed to do more study of its impact to tribal rights. The Corps filed its work with the court in late August.

Standing Rock's challenge says the Corps "failed to grapple with extensive technical input provided by the tribe and others undermining its conclusions." The major example the tribe offered is information it says shows the Corps has underestimated the risk and impact of an oil spill.

The tribe continues to maintain that the only lawful way to resolve the matter would be through a full environmental study that includes consideration of route alternatives.

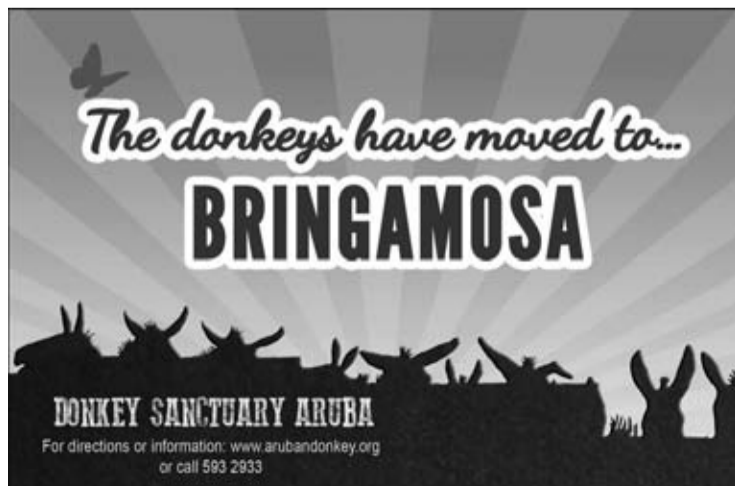
The Corps had planned to do a more extensive en-

vironmental study before President Donald Trump took office in January 2017 and pushed through completion of the stalled project. The agency said in court documents in August that the additional study concluded a more thorough review is unwarranted. The tribe asks Boasberg to reject that conclusion. □



In this Oct. 5, 2016, file photo, heavy equipment is seen at a site where sections of the Dakota Access pipeline were being buried near the town of St. Anthony in Morton County, N.D.

Associated Press





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Justices skeptical of argument to overturn Va. mining ban



In this Oct. 4, 2018 photo, the U.S. Supreme Court is seen at sunset in Washington.

By **JESSICA GRESKO**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court seemed reluctant Monday to agree with companies seeking to overturn a decades-old Virginia ban on mining radioactive uranium. The justices heard arguments in a case brought by the owners of a massive uranium deposit in Virginia's Pittsylvania County, which borders North Carolina. It's the largest known uranium deposit in the United States, and its owners have said it contains enough uranium

to power all of the country's nuclear reactors continuously for two years. Virginia says nothing in the federal Atomic Energy Act keeps it from banning uranium mining, which it has done since the 1980s. But the uranium companies argue that the state's purpose in passing the ban was improper. The companies argue the state can't ban uranium mining based on concerns about radiological hazards connected with what happens next: processing the radioactive uranium and storing

the radioactive waste that results. Virginia says its purpose doesn't matter. During arguments Monday, both liberal and conservative justices seemed to voice concerns about wading into lawmakers' motives in passing the mining ban. Conservative Justice Neil Gorsuch and Chief Justice John Roberts and liberal justices Elena Kagan and Sonia Sotomayor all seemed to raise issues with doing so. Gorsuch noted that "every piece of legislation has a variety of motives behind

it." And Sotomayor asked lawyer Charles Cooper, who was arguing on behalf of the uranium deposit's owners, whether determining the lawmakers' motives would "require depositing every single legislative member." Kagan suggested that looking at purpose could invite "gamesmanship" where lawmakers would conceal their true motives for passing legislation. Justices Samuel Alito and Stephen Breyer, however, seemed more inclined to side with the uranium deposit's owners and

consider the ban's purpose. "So what's wrong with looking at purpose here?" Breyer at one point asked Toby Heytens, who was arguing on behalf of Virginia.

Justice Brett Kavanaugh also seemed potentially open to letting courts take a limited look at purpose. Though Virginia's uranium mining ban has been in place for decades, the deposit's owners first sued over it in 2015. That's in part because a few years after the deposit was discovered, the price of uranium plummeted and interest in mining it had waned. But after the price of uranium rebounded, the deposit's owners attempted to convince Virginia lawmakers to reconsider the ban from 2008 to 2013. After that effort failed, they sued the state in federal court in an attempt to invalidate the ban and clear the path for mining the uranium, which they say is worth several billion dollars.

The Virginia deposit could be turned into usable uranium in three steps. First, the uranium ore would have to be mined from the ground. The uranium would then need to be processed at a mill, where pure uranium is separated from waste rock. The waste rock, called "tailings," which remain radioactive, would then have to be securely stored.

The Atomic Energy Act allows the state to regulate the uranium mining, the first step in the process. The federal government has oversight over the other steps. The case is 16-1275 Virginia Uranium v. John Warren. □

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Girl Scout, mom killed in Wisconsin crash loved crafts

By **IVAN MORENO**
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE (AP) — A mother and one of three Girl Scouts killed in a hit-and-run crash in Wisconsin shared a love of crafts and couldn't live without each other, a family member said Monday.

Sara Jo Schneider, 32, and her 10-year-old daughter Haylee Hickel were among a group of adults and children who were picking up trash in the ditches of a rural highway when a pickup truck that veered off the road struck them Saturday morning, said police in Lake Hallie, a town about 95 miles (152 kilometers) east of Minneapolis. The truck driver later told authorities

he was inhaling chemical vapors before the crash.

Judy Schneider said her daughter and granddaughter's deaths are "still not real for any of us."

"We all expect them to come back," she said.

Nine-year-old Jayna Kelley and 10-year-old Autum Helgeson, both of Lake Hallie, were also killed. Another 10-year-old girl who was struck was in stable condition at a hospital Monday. Lake Hallie police said the 21-year-old pickup driver, Colten Treu, and a passenger told investigators they had been huffing just before striking the Girl Scout troop. Authorities said Treu sped off after the collision, but surrendered hours later.

er. He is being held in the Chippewa County Jail on \$250,000 bond and faces 13 possible charges, including four counts of intoxicated use of a motor vehicle.

Treu made his first court appearance Monday and has another hearing scheduled for Tuesday, when prosecutors are expected to formally charge him.

Schneider said her daughter, granddaughter and grandson moved in with her a couple of years ago and they expected the house in the Town of Lafayette to be their "forever home."

"It was a little piece of heaven," she said. Now, she said, "It's going to be hollow." □



This photo provided by the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office in Wisconsin shows Colten Treu, who is accused of striking and killing three Girl Scouts and a parent and critically injuring a fourth girl who were picking up trash along a rural roadway near Chippewa Falls, Wis., on Saturday, Nov. 3, 2018.

Associated Press

2 California death row inmates found dead; suicide suspected

By **DON THOMPSON**
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Two condemned multiple murderers, including a convicted serial killer, apparently committed suicide within hours of each other on the nation's largest death row, according to California officials on Monday.

Corrections officials found Andrew Urdiales, 54, unresponsive during a security check at San Quentin State Prison late Friday, and he was pronounced dead early Saturday, according to a statement.

He was sentenced to death on Oct. 5 by an Orange County jury for killing five women in California,

and previously faced the death penalty for three murders in Illinois.

The California victims were Robbin Brandley, 23, who was attacked as she walked to her car following a concert on Jan. 18, 1986, at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo; Maryann Wells, 31, on Sept. 25, 1988, in San Diego; Julie McGhee, 29, on July 17, 1988, in Cathedral City; Tammie Erwin, 20, on April 16, 1989, in Palm Springs; and Denise Maney, 32, on March 11, 1995, in Palm Springs. The murders occurred while he was stationed at various U.S. Marine Corps facilities in Southern California.

He previously was convicted of killing Cassie Corum,

21, and Lori Uylaki, 25, both from Hammond, Illinois; and Lynn Huber, 22, of Chicago, in the mid-1990s and was sentenced to death there in 2004. Former Illinois Gov. George Ryan commuted his sentence to life in prison in 2011 after capital punishment was outlawed in that state.

He had been on California's death row since Oct. 12. While his cause of death is awaiting the results of an autopsy, officials said his death is being investigated as a suicide. He was alone in his cell in the "adjustment center," the first place condemned inmates are housed after arriving at death row.

Separately, authorities say

they found Virendra Govin, 51, unresponsive alone in his cell in a different death row housing unit late Sunday. He was pronounced dead a short time later.

Govin was sentenced in December 2004 for committing four Los Angeles County murders, then setting the victims' family home on fire.

The victims were Gita Kumar, 42; Plara Kumar, 18; Tulsi Kumar, 16; and Sitaben Patel, 63. Govin, his brother Pravin Govin, and Carlos Amador, then set the Kumars' home on fire. Govin arrived on death row in January 2005. His brother, Pravin, has been on death row since September 2005.

Officials said that while his death is also being investigated as a suicide, there is no indication that his and Urdiales' deaths are related.

California has not executed anyone since 2006 and inmates are far more likely to die from suicide or old age.

Since 1978, when California reinstated capital punishment, 79 condemned inmates have died from natural causes, 25 have committed suicide, 13 have been executed in California, one was executed in Missouri, and one was executed in Virginia. There currently are 740 offenders on California's death row. □

Tusk defends actions as former PM at Poland's pyramid probe

By **MONIKA SCISLOWSKA**

WARSAW, Poland (AP) —

Donald Tusk, the head of the European Council, strongly defended his actions as Poland's former prime minister during questioning Monday into a pyramid scheme that cheated thousands of Poles out of their savings.

In an emotional moment during the seven-hour hearing, which was televised live across Poland, Tusk told the ruling conservative party that it was using his questioning by a parliamentary committee for political purposes.

"You need this commission, you need this spectacle, to keep repeating ... your insinuations, also on the subject of my family," Tusk said. Still, Tusk said during the questioning that he did not feel particularly threatened or the object of a witch hunt. He said he was confident in his actions as prime minister from 2007 to 2014. Tusk said the hearing showed the weakness of the commission, which he said was trying to put blame on him.

Before the hearing, Tusk told reporters he rearranged his EU calendar and showed up because he treats the commission's work "seriously."

"It was my obligation as a citizen," he said.



The President of the European Council Donald Tusk testifies before a parliamentary investigation commission, in Warsaw, Poland, Monday, Nov. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

Still, there was no escaping the political overtones of Monday's interrogation, for there have been years of enmity between Tusk and Poland's ruling Law and Justice party leader, Jaroslaw Kaczynski. Commentators on private TVN24 described the event as a public "grilling," and it was widely seen as part of the conservative party's efforts to discredit Tusk, a political foe who is still popular in Poland.

Tusk was sworn in by the special multi-party commission that has already ques-

tioned dozens of state officials in its efforts to pinpoint responsibility for the scam. Addressing him as "prime minister" the commission sought to determine the scope of Tusk's authority over state security and other offices and when he was made aware of the pyramid scheme by the Amber Gold financial institution. Prosecutors say some 19,000 investors lost over 850 million zlotys (\$225 million) in what turned out to be one of the biggest financial scandals in Poland.

Amber Gold's two founders are both under arrest in prison and are on trial facing up to 15-year sentences. One of them is also serving a prison term for another bank scam.

The scam, which was revealed in 2012, has raised questions about the effectiveness of Poland's government during Tusk's term in office. Critics say Polish authorities failed to react in time to warning signals about Amber Gold.

Rejecting these allegations, Tusk said a warning against

Amber Gold was issued by the Polish Financial Supervision Commission, or KNF, and it was not the prime minister's job to issue such a warning. "While I have sympathy for those who invested in Amber Gold, because they are the victims of these dealings, I want to say that a warning by the KNF that it was linked to very high risk was publicly available," Tusk said.

He suggested that some anti-crime procedures had failed in the Amber Gold case, as well as fiscal controls and the office for protecting consumers.

"In the Amber Gold case, had all the links described in the procedure worked as they should have, we would have probably managed to avoid the lion's share of the losses that people sustained," Tusk said.

One of the themes of the investigation and of Monday's questioning was the fact that Tusk's son Michal was employed by an airline owned by Amber Gold. Tusk denied allegations that his son's job could have served as a protective umbrella for the pyramid scheme.

The televised questioning came a day after Poland's populist ruling party suffered a blow in the country's mayoral races by failing to win control of any of the nation's largest cities. □

Search on for survivors of 2 collapsed buildings in France



Firefighters work at the scene where a building collapsed in Marseille, southern France, Monday, Nov. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

MARSEILLE, France (AP) —

Two buildings collapsed into a pile of rubble and beams Monday in the French city of Marseille, where authorities spoke of

a race against time to find people possibly trapped in the ruins.

The buildings — one condemned and supposedly vacant, the other contain-

ing apartments — gave way after 9 a.m. In the spot where they had stood, a large gap appeared once the dust and debris settled. Marseille fire services said two people who were in the street when the buildings collapsed were treated for light injuries. French President Emmanuel Macron said Monday evening it was unknown if anyone was killed or trapped.

Fire officials deliberately brought down most of a third building due to concerns the unstable structure might cave on top of search crews and sniffer dogs combing the rubble of the other buildings. The late afternoon demolition

released more dust clouds. Authorities said one building had been condemned as substandard and was assumed to be unoccupied, but the other was inhabited. The government's housing minister, Julien Denormandie, said at the scene he couldn't rule out that people were trapped in the collapse.

"It's a race against the clock," Denormandie said. "The urgent task is to determine whether there are people we can save."

Thick dust covered cars around the site near Marseille's famous Old Port. Amateur video broadcast on BFM-TV featured bystanders covering their

mouths with their sleeves to avoid the dusty air.

Images of the buildings before they collapsed, visible on Google Street View, showed that one had five floors and the other six.

One of the buildings was clearly in poor repair, with boarded-up windows and large visible cracks on the facade before it collapsed. Sabine Bernasconi, the local mayor for that part of Marseille, said one of the buildings was subject to an evacuation order, but could not say for sure that squatters were not using it. The regional prefecture urged people to avoid the area and make way for emergency services. □

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Iran president warns of 'war situation' as sanctions resume

By NASSER KARIMI
AMIR VAHDAT
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran greeted the re-imposition of U.S. sanctions on Monday with air defense drills and a statement from President Hassan Rouhani that the nation faces a "war situation," raising Mideast tensions as America's maximalist approach to the Islamic Republic takes hold.

The sanctions end all economic benefits America had granted Tehran for its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, though Iran for now continues to abide by the accord that saw it limit its enrichment of uranium. While at the moment not threatening to resume higher enrichment, Iranian officials in recent months have made a point to warn the controversial process could resume at any time, faster than before.

The new American sanctions particularly hurt Iran's vital oil industry, a crucial source of hard currency for its anemic economy. Its national currency has plummeted over the last year, sending prices for everything from mobile phones to medicine skyrocketing.

"Today, Iran is able to sell its oil and it will sell," Rouhani vowed Monday as the sanctions kicked in.

However, the noose of American sanctions appeared to be tightening. Iranian officials, meanwhile, reported a cyberattack targeting the country's communication infrastructure, blaming the purported attack on Israel.

Iranian state television aired



An effigy of U.S. government icon "Uncle Sam" is held up by demonstrators during a rally in front of the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran, Iran, on Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, marking the 39th anniversary of the seizure of the embassy by militant Iranian students.

Associated Press

footage of air defense systems and anti-aircraft batteries in two-day military maneuvers underway across a vast stretch of the country's north. It included surface-to-air missiles shooting down a drone.

The drill was to continue through Tuesday. Iranian army Gen. Habibillah Sayyari said both the national army and the country's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard were taking part in the exercise.

Rouhani, meanwhile, pledged to government officials in comments aired on state TV that Iran would overcome the sanctions.

"We are in the war situation," Rouhani said. "We are in the economic war situation. We are confronting a bullying enemy. We have to stand to win."

He further stepped up the rhetoric, comparing Iran's situation in the 1980s war against Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein with the current one and President Donald Trump's move to reinstate U.S. sanctions.

"Yesterday, Saddam was in front of us, today Trump is front of us. There is no difference. We must resist and win," he said.

Iran is already in the grip of an economic crisis. Its national currency, the rial, now trades at 150,000 to one U.S. dollar, down from when it traded around 40,500 to \$1 a year ago. The economic chaos sparked mass anti-government protests at the end of last year which resulted in nearly 5,000 reported arrests and at least 25 people being killed. Sporadic demonstra-

tions still continue.

Rouhani separately said leaders from "four powers" met with Iran on the sidelines of the September meeting of the United Nations General Assembly to try to save the deal, including brokering a possible meeting with Trump. He did not name those countries, but was likely referring to China, France, Russia and Britain, which along with Germany made up the world powers involved in the 2015 nuclear deal.

"This issue does not require a mediator," Rouhani said, blaming America for unilaterally pulling out of the accord.

Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Ghasemi also predicted the sanctions will actually work against America's in-

terests.

"Many countries from Europe to Russia and China have opposed the sanctions," Ghasemi told journalists, adding that Iranians "have experienced more extensive sanctions" and that they are "not a new issue."

The United States says the sanctions are not aimed at toppling the government, but at persuading it to radically change its policies, including its support for regional militant groups and its development of long-range ballistic missiles.

However, Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani and John Bolton, the president's national security adviser, both have made public statements supporting overthrowing Iran's theocratic government.

Also Monday, Iran's Telecommunication Minister Mohammad Javad Azeri Jahromi and his deputy, Hamid Fatahi, both tweeted about a cyberattack targeting the country's communications infrastructure, without elaborating. They blamed Israel for the attack and both referenced Stuxnet, which destroyed thousands of centrifuges involved in Iran's contested nuclear program in 2011. □

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Separatists kidnap 79 pupils in Cameroon's restive northwest

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP) — Armed separatists kidnapped at least 79 students and three staff members from a Presbyterian school in a troubled English-speaking region of Cameroon late Sunday, the governor said Monday.

The numbers provided by North West Region Gov. Deben Tchoffo were larger than his earlier estimate of the people kidnapped in Nkwen, a village near the regional capital, Bamenda. The students are ages 11-17 and the school principal was among the staff members abducted, he said.

"It is rather unfortunate that this is happening. That 79 of our children and three of their staff can be picked up by terrorists," Tchoffo said. "We have asked our military to do everything and bring back the kids alive."

A video purporting to show the kidnapped students was released on social media from a group of men who call themselves "Amba boys," a reference to the state of Ambazonia armed separatists want to establish in Cameroon's Anglophone North West and South West regions.



The students and their principal were taken from a Presbyterian school in Nkwen village in Cameroon's northwest region.
Associated Press

In the video, men who identified themselves as the kidnappers forced several boys to state their names and the names of their parents. The boys also said they were kidnapped late Sunday by armed men and didn't know where they were being held.

The men in the video said they would only release the students once the goal of creating a new state is

achieved.

"We shall only release you after the struggle. You will be going to school now here," the men said. The video could not be independently verified, but parents said on social media they recognized their children in the recording.

Fighting between the military and separatists increased after the government clamped down on

peaceful demonstrations by English-speaking teachers and lawyers protesting what they said were their marginalization by Cameroon's French-speaking majority.

Hundreds have been killed amid the violence in the past year.

The armed separatists have vowed to destabilize the regions as part of the strategy for creating a break-away state. They have mounted attacks against civilians who do not support their cause, including teachers who were killed for disobeying orders to keep schools closed.

There have been kidnappings at other schools, but the group taken Sunday was the largest number abducted at one time in Cameroon's Anglophone regions. The separatists also have torched at least a hundred schools and driven out students and teachers from buildings taken over as training grounds.

"These appalling abductions show just how the general population is paying the highest price as violence escalates in the Anglophone region," Samira

Daoud, Amnesty International deputy regional director for West and Central Africa. "The abduction of schoolchildren and teachers can never be justified."

Amnesty International expressed solidarity with the students' families and demanded "that the Cameroon authorities do everything in their power to ensure all the pupils and school staff are freed unharmed."

Last week separatist militants attacked workers on a state-run rubber plantation in southwestern Cameroon, allegedly chopping off their fingers because the men defied an order to stay away from the farms.

An American missionary also died in the North West region near its capital, Bamenda, when he was shot in the head amid fighting between armed separatists and soldiers.

The turmoil in Cameroon comes after President Paul Biya won a seventh term last month in an election the United States said was marked by irregularities. Biya, who has been in office since 1982, is set to be inaugurated Tuesday. □

2 scholars due to speak at Harvard barred from leaving China

By **CHRISTOPHER BODEEN**
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — A researcher at a prominent Chinese think tank repeatedly targeted by the Communist government said Monday he and the organization's director have been barred from leaving the country.

Jiang Hao told The Associated Press on that he and director Sheng Hong were due to attend a symposium at Harvard University this month marking the 40th anniversary of China's reform and opening policy. Jiang said he was given no explanation by authorities when he was stopped at the airport on Saturday, but Sheng was told it was a matter of national security when he was turned around on Thursday.

The two work for the Unirule Institute of Economics, which advocates for



In this Sept. 26, 2018, photo, visitors pose for a photo while holding a Communist Party flag in front of a display commemorating the 40th anniversary of China's Reform and Opening-Up policy at the PT Expo in Beijing.

Associated Press

market-style economics and constitutional democracy and has been repeatedly harassed by the communist authorities. It has been evicted from its office space, had its license pulled and seen its website

and social media accounts shut down.

The symposium's website lists four prominent Chinese scholars as speakers at the event scheduled for Monday at Harvard's Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies.

Its poster features a photograph of former paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, the architect of the reform and opening policy whose legacy current President Xi Jinping is seen as diminishing in order to elevate his own status as China's most powerful leader since Mao Zedong.

Jiang said nearly 20 Chinese scholars had been invited to attend the symposium, some of whom had already arrived in the U.S.

"But some of them have changed their minds by choosing not to go due to reasons that are obvious," he said, pointing to official disapproval of the academic gathering.

Unirule was founded in 1993 and has published reports critical of the government, including one saying major Chinese state-owned companies are unprofitable

and receive large public subsidies.

Unirule has also championed freedom of expression and due process and conducted symposiums on sensitive subjects such as the Chinese civil war that brought the communists to power in 1949.

Since taking over the ruling Communist Party in 2012, Xi has relentlessly attacked liberal intellectuals, rights lawyers and other members of civil society, silencing much of the independent discourse that had begun to find its voice under his predecessors.

Xi has demanded the entirely state-controlled media put the interests of the Communist Party first and has warned about the infiltration of liberal Western values such as freedom of speech into the educational system. □

Tens of thousands march to support new Sri Lanka government

By EMILY SCHMALL
BHARATHA MALLAWARACHI

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)

— Tens of thousands of Sri Lankans marched Monday in support of a new government led by the country's former strongman, highlighting the political polarization in the Indian Ocean island nation.

The rally near Parliament came amid a constitutional crisis sparked by President Maithripala Sirisena's move to oust Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, replace him with ex-leader Mahinda Rajapaksa and suspend Parliament.

Wickremesinghe has refused to vacate his official residence, insisting he is the lawful prime minister and that the president had no constitutional right to replace him. Thousands of his supporters have been keeping vigil.

Supporters of Rajapaksa at the rally chanted "Whose power is this? Mahinda's power!"

As patriotic songs blared over loudspeakers, thousands shuffled through heavy rain toward a makeshift stage. Police and Sri Lankan special forces with semi-automatic rifles stood guard.

Police estimated 120,000 people attended the rally. State television reported there were at least 200,000. Pradeep Kariyawasam, the head of Rajapaksa's party in Colombo, said that although Wickremesinghe continues to maintain he is the country's legitimate leader, "the people are with us."

"Give people a chance to choose their government and not hide behind constitutional interpretations," he said.

Sirisena and Rajapaksa arrived at the rally amid loud cheers.

Sirisena told the crowd that the change he initiated was more than a personnel shift.

"I ousted a vision that is incompatible with our local culture and values, and that works according to foreign agendas," Sirisena



Sri Lankan president Maithripala Sirisena, right, and his newly appointed prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa wave to supporters during a rally held outside the parliamentary complex in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Monday, Nov. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

said.

"For the past 3 ½ years, poor people were suppressed by Ranil Wickremesinghe's economic and political vision. Local thoughts were rejected and an extreme neo-liberal form of governance was carried out."

He was referring to Wickremesinghe's free-market economic policies and public-private partnerships with companies from China and India to operate strategic centers such as ports and airports.

Rajapaksa supporters have accused Wickremesinghe of selling Sri Lanka's assets, citing a 99-year lease agreement his government struck with Hong Kong conglomerate China Merchants Port Holdings Co. Ltd. last year to operate a failing port developed with Chinese debt during Rajapaksa's decadelong presidency.

"Foreign countries are trying to take our resources, take our land," said Mithra Kumara Jayasinghe, a wedding photographer at the rally who said he had voted for Rajapaksa the two times he was elected president, in 2005 and 2010, and when he lost a re-election bid in 2015.

Critics of Sirisena's actions say Parliament was suspended to give Rajapaksa

time to gather enough support to survive a no-confidence vote when lawmakers reconvene Nov. 14.

Parliament Speaker Karu Jayasuriya said on Monday that he won't recognize the new appointments until either side is able to prove it has a majority. It means that the speaker still recognizes a Wickremesinghe-led Parliament.

"I wish to emphasize that I am compelled to accept the status that existed previously until such time that they (the pro-Wickremesinghe lawmakers) and the new political alliance prove their majority in Parliament," he said.

The statement was fuel at Rajapaksa's five-hour rally. Lawmaker Susil Premjayantha told the crowd that electing a new speaker could be the first order of business when Parliament reopens, suggesting the party will bring a no-confidence motion against Jayasuriya.

Wickremesinghe said in an interview with The Associated Press last week that there is credible evidence that Rajapaksa's party is attempting to buy support in Parliament. Palitha Range Bandara, a United National Party lawmaker, has said that he was offered millions of dollars and a minister

portfolio if he crossed over. Lawmakers from Rajapaksa's party have denied the allegations.

Seven members of Wickremesinghe's United National Front have defected to Rajapaksa's government.

On Saturday, the Tamil National Alliance — an ethnic minority Tamil party — said it will support a no-confidence motion to be brought against Rajapaksa, after one lawmaker from their party joined Rajapaksa's government.

The Tamil party's 15 votes could give Wickremesinghe's camp a decisive edge over Rajapaksa.

Both Sirisena and Rajapaksa attempted to woo Tamil lawmakers in their speeches at the rally.

Speaking in the Tamil language, Rajapaksa promised to fulfill the Tamil people's needs.

"What I ask from all Tamil and (Tamil-speaking) Muslim people and their political parties is to help to build up our country. I trust you and you can always trust me," Rajapaksa said.

Ethnic minority Tamils in the country's north and east are still reeling from the effects of a 26-year civil war between Tamil Tiger separatists and government troops.

Rajapaksa is seen as a hero by the ethnic Sinhalese majority for winning the conflict.

Tens of thousands of civilians were reportedly killed in the final months of the war in 2009, when government troops brutally crushed the rebels. Thousands more are still missing. Sirisena came into power in 2015 promising to address the issues affecting the Tamils and investigate allegations of war crimes against both sides of the conflict, but has done little in either area. He was also critical of investigations into military personnel accused of human rights violations during the civil war.

Among the crowd Monday was Basil Ros, 58, a fisherman from the village of Negombo.

Ros said a local lawmaker from Rajapaksa's United People's Freedom Alliance bused him and his wife in with many others, pledging to give them 1,000 rupees (about \$5.80), food and alcohol.

He said he hadn't received any money yet.

"You can't trust politicians," he said. "They might pay; they might not."

After sacking Wickremesinghe, Sirisena announced that he made the replacement in part because Wickremesinghe and a Cabinet colleague were behind an alleged assassination plot against him.

Details of the alleged plot have not been disclosed and Wickremesinghe has repeatedly denied the accusation.

Tensions had been building between Sirisena and Wickremesinghe for some time, as the president did not approve of economic reforms introduced by the prime minister.

Sirisena said at the rally that he would not be discouraged by resistance in Parliament, civil society and the international community to his actions.

"Even if there are threats, pressure and forces, I will only move forward and will not take a step back," he said. □






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Argentina's Fernandez still inspires loyalty among many

By **ALMUDENA CALATRAVA**
BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — A battery of corruption allegations and criminal charges against former President Cristina Fernandez hasn't fazed a strong band of hard-core backers, who have helped make her a leading — if undeclared — contender to regain power in next year's elections.

Hundreds of supporters, some waving signs saying, "Strength, Cristina!" thronged the street outside when investigators searched the former president's apartment recently. Cries of support for Fernandez rise from crowds during protests against the austerity policies of the conservative who replaced her as president, Mauricio Macri. "Now more than ever, soldiers of Cristina" read a sign at a demonstration demanding improved conditions for disabled retirees.

"Many women voted for the government of Mauricio Macri and now they regret it," Teresa Rollano said while walking arm-in-arm with a friend who carried that sign. "The people want Cristina because she represents the working class. She has given us all of our rights."

A recent survey by local pollster Ricardo Rouvier & Associates said Fernandez is neck-and-neck with Macri in terms of support ahead of the October 2019 election.

That's remarkable backing for a politician who faces numerous formal investigations into alleged bribery, money laundering and



In this Oct. 6, 2018 photo, retiree Clara Schapiro, 75, poses for a picture backdropped by a wall emblazoned with a message that reads in Spanish: "With Cristina, you don't mess around," in reference to former President Cristina Fernandez, in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Associated Press

criminal association during her own administration from 2007 to 2015 and that of her late husband Nestor Kirchner from 2003 to 2007. Fernandez, now a senator, hasn't been convicted of any crimes — a first trial is scheduled to start in February — and she fiercely denies any wrongdoing, accusing officials of persecuting her to distract from the current economic crisis. But the Argentine press has been filled with picturesque scandals: bags of millions of dollars in cash tossed over a convent wall, the mysterious death of a prosecutor who accused Fernandez of a cover-up, the corruption conviction of her former vice president.

Part of her strength stems from disenchantment with

Macri, whose budget-cutting efforts have forced thousands out of public jobs, raised electricity bills and hiked bus fares without managing to revive the economy or rein in soaring prices. His decision this year to seek IMF aid to help has roused fears among those who blame the international agency for a devastating economic crash in 2001, when Argentina's government was forced into the largest debt default in history to that point and millions of Argentines were plunged into poverty. Many credit Kirchner and Fernandez for leading the country out of that crisis, even if Macri's backers blame Fernandez's policies for eventually creating the country's current woes.

Under Fernandez, "I was able to buy a new car, fix my house and travel on a plane for the first time," said Gloria Buffarini, a hairdresser. "I used to pay 600 pesos a month (about \$16) for electricity. Now, it's 3,000 (about \$80)."

Fernandez's supporters credit her for nationalizing the pension system, keeping energy cheap through subsidies and redirecting revenue to the poor through handouts, and see her as a trailblazer for women's advancement.

The former president's appeal also flows from her leadership of a powerful — if often fragmented — populist tide in Argentine politics that originated with strongman Juan Domingo Peron in the 1940s and from

progressive social policies she passed in the face of opposition from powerful business interests.

But she also inspires deep animosity. Detractors blame her for endemic corruption and the deterioration of Argentina's economy, which was choked by restrictions on imports, exports and foreign currency exchanges in the latter part of her administration.

"Not since Peron has there been another leader who has generated such a situation of love and hate," said Mariel Fornoni of the Management & Fit consultancy. She said Fernandez has a "hard core of followers who are going to vote for her no matter what she does."

Fernandez infuriates people like Patricio Canbelari, a language teacher, who said, "Most want to see her arrested," and called her a "white-gloved thief."

Fernandez's former public works secretary was arrested in 2016 when he was caught tossing bags containing more than \$9 million over the walls of a convent. He later agreed to cooperate with prosecutors, joining other witnesses in accusing Fernandez and her son of overseeing a plan to skim millions of dollars from public works projects.

Judges also are investigating allegations published by the newspaper La Nacion that a senior official's chauffeur kept detailed diaries of millions of dollars in cash payments, including some delivered to the presidential offices and to Fernandez's private home. □

LOCAL



A.T.A. launches campaign 'AUTHENTIC ARUBA' NYC's GRAND CENTRAL STATION is taken over by ARUBA



ORANJESTAD – Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) has just launched a new campaign named 'Authentic Aruba'. This took place at 'Grand Central Station' in New York, where Aruba 'took over' this iconic place for the whole month of November. Over 150 big billboards illustrating a variety of local people, where they state why Aruba is so special.

At The Campbell Terrace in Grand Central Station, the CEO of ATA, Ronella Tjin Asjoe-Croes, together with the CEO of Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) Tisa La Sorte, Sanju Luidens-Daryanani CMO of ATA., Ed Malone Director of ATA for North America, and several other members of the ATA team, among other special guests and those taking part in this campaign welcomed everyone present. Some of the guests were,

the well-known couple Lilian and Roque Pieters, local artist Vanessa Paulina, Carnavalist Irina Croes and Lisette Schnog, and our international windsurfing champion Sarah-Quita Offringa.

There is a special connection between Aruba and New York since the majority of U.S. visitors are from New York. This is what makes this area very special to Aruba. The purpose of this campaign is to attract more attention from passengers coming from Metro North/Westchester and Connecticut. They travel every day through Grand Central Station in order to reach to New York City.

Different 'influencers' and well known magazines, such as 'Men's Journal,' 'Cosmopolitan,' 'Good Housekeeping,' 'New York Post,'



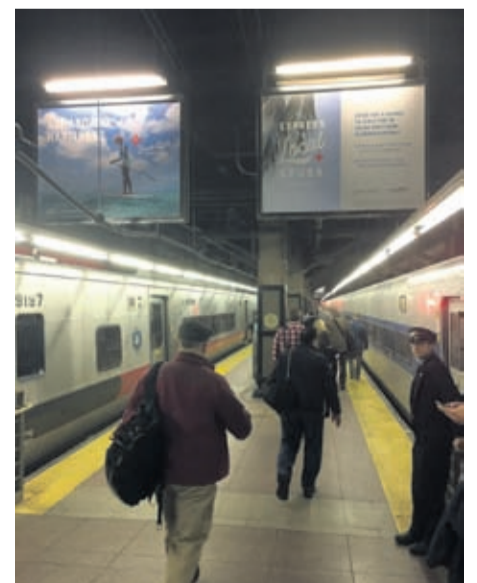
'USA Today,' 'The Oprah Magazine,' 'Travel & Leisure,' Matador Network were among the press members present to the launch the campaign.

Additionally ATA is activating its promotion 'Authentic Aruba' on Instagram, under the account of 'expresstolocalaruba'. Off course 'Authentic Aruba' will be continued to be used through all other media to promote Aruba. The campaign will be presenting more and more local personalities but this will be launched in due time. Promotions in Europe and Latin America will also include aspects of 'Authentic Aruba'.

ATA would like to thank the Ritz Carlton Aruba and Red Sail Sport for their support for expresstolocalaruba'. Also special thanks goes to all local ambassadors who did

a remarkable work in helping to promote Aruba in partnership with ATA and AHATA.

ATA is satisfied with this event especially because Aruba is able to take over Grand Central Station for the month of November. □

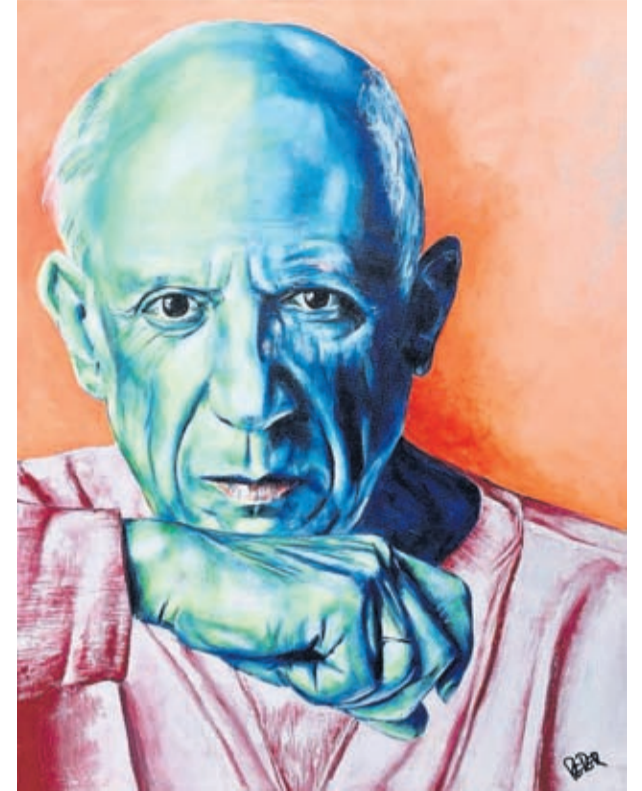
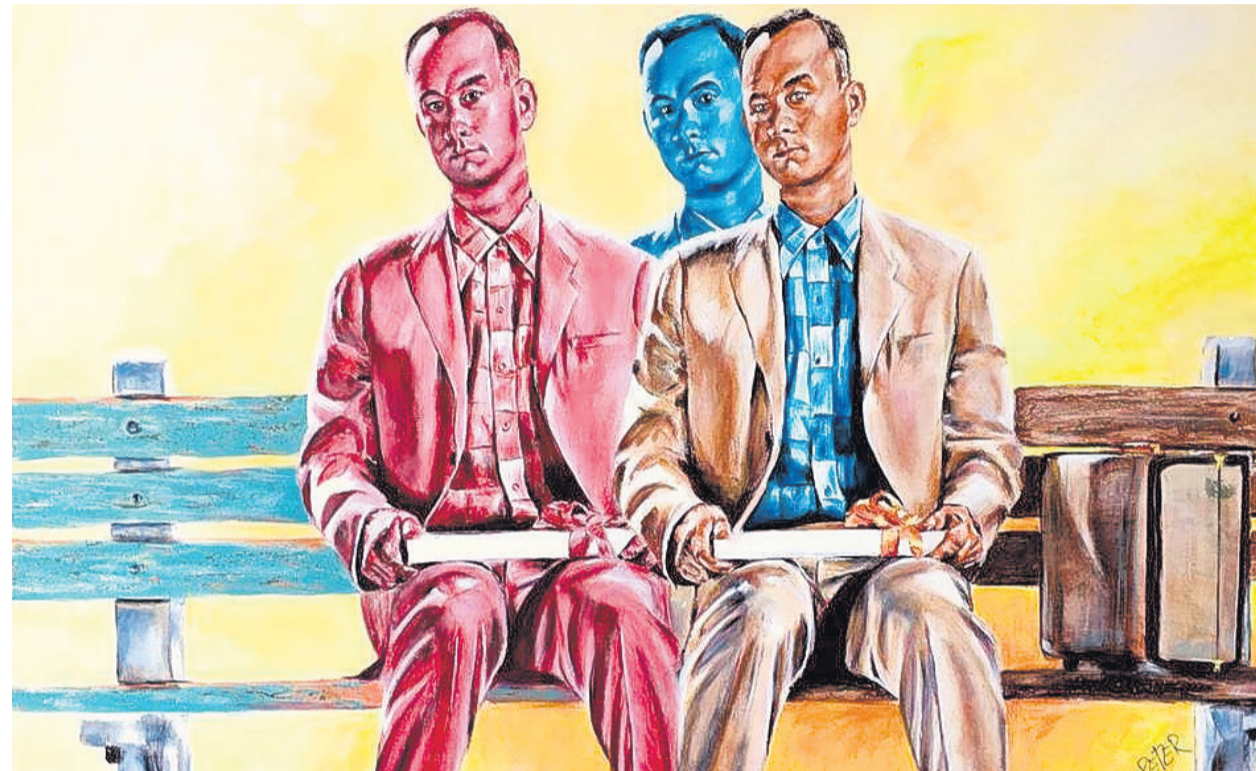


7th art exhibition of Chamber of Commerce

EAGLE BEACH — Art inspires and that is something the Chamber of Commerce understands very well. For the 7th time they organize an art exhibition and this time local artist Peter van den Heuvel will present his colorful paintings.

Van den Heuvel was empowered to paint after visiting an art museum in Washington. The art gives him peace in mind and creates an inside happiness. His style is derived from the impres-

sionism with use of many colors and his fantasy. He combines the love for music with painting and focuses mainly on portraits, although he recently completed some historic scenes from Aruba. His aim is to finish paintings within two weeks after choosing his theme and colors. In the nearly three years that he paints, he finished almost 70 paintings and most of them are not for sale. Visit Peter's Art Page at Facebook for more information.



This coming Friday the Chamber of Commerce Aruba opens its doors for you to admire the art of acrylic paint on canvas by Van den Heuvel. Between 5 and 7 Pm the free event is on, to enter you do need to register at: www.arubachamber.com/signup. During this happening you will be able to talk to the artist and also mingle with the other guests.

For more information and questions about this event please contact us! Send an e-mail to: businessinfo@arubachamber.com or call at tel: 582-1566 ext. 27/42. □

Happy Diamond Anniversary to the Kovelesky's



ORANJESTAD — George and Phyllis Kovelesky have been loyal friends of Aruba for 33 years and are members of Aruba Beach Club. They are right now in Aruba for their annual trip, but this trip has something special added to it. After spending 3 weeks in Italy they have come to their beloved and favorite island to continue the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary.

Congratulations George and Phyllis!!

60 years together how wonderful that is. We wish you a wonderful celebration and lots of years filled with love as solid as diamonds to follow. □



*A Diamond has many facets,
Its wealth is beyond compare,
It sparkles in the sunlight and glistens everywhere.
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You are a couple adored.
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Honoring loyal and friendly Visitors at Divi Phoenix Resort

ORANJESTAD —Recently, Kimberly Richardson of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to

the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are William and Vendetter Boddie, from Florida, who have been coming to Aruba for their 13th consecutive trip. The couples love coming to the island for the beauti-



ful weather, great beaches and all above a super fun vacation.

Kimberly together with rep-

resentatives of Divi Phoenix Resort, presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some presents to them and thanked

them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □

Asi Es Mi Peru restaurant launches Chef Table 5 Course Menu: "It feels like having dinner at home in Peru"



EAGLE BEACH - Peruvian-born Roxanna Salinas is the proud owner of a restaurant that without doubt serves the purest Peruvian specialties in Aruba: Asi Es Mi Peru at Paradise Beach Villas. She herself welcomes you in 'her home' as that is how the restaurant is described by Peruvian foodies: Food like home, for sure the best compliment a restaurant can get. "Everything here is 100 % Peruvian, we are authentic and ethnic." Peru by the way is considered to be the single most important cuisine in Latin America with a repertoire of dishes that might even beat France. Many big-name chefs travel to the country to get inspired.

How It All Started

"Many years ago during a Christmas gathering with family my mom told me why I did not open a Peruvian restaurant in Aruba. She said: who does not love Peruvian food?" That was the trigger for the start because Roxanne loves cooking, it is in her genes. Her mom and grandmother were great cooks. "My base principle was to do everything original and authentic. When guests come to this restaurant I want to

serve them the food as if you were dining the best dishes in a house in Peru. The taste is equal, nothing is fused or changed. Many Peruvians that come here say: I feel like I am having dinner at home. It is very difficult to please Peruvians as naturally they know best what is authentic." To find her Chef and Sous Chef she went to Peru where she interviewed 190 applicants. "We had more than 400 people that applied, after a screening that my brother and I did, we were left with 190 and out of them 10 cooked for me. I gave them a basket with ingredients and a certain plate they had to cook. Based on that I chose the Chef and Sous Chef."

Chef Table 5 Course Menu

Peruvian food is remarkable for the diversity of its ingredients. It might be best known for its ceviche, the marinated seafood dish, but bestsellers are also Lomo Saltado (stir fry strips sirloin), seafood rice and Pescado a lo Macho (fish of the day). Roxanne explains that recently the Chef launched a 5-course Chef Table Menu. "Now that we have standardized our typical Peruvian cuisine, we are ready to take it to the next level. Our Chef is very knowledgeable and we bring higher cuisine to the table." Of the 5 courses the first is the Tiradito Tres Regiones, and the 2nd the Majao de Yuca con Pargo Escabechado paired with

a wonderful Santiago Ruiz Albarino; The 3rd plate is a Cremosa de Quinoa con Aji Relleno paired with a Hahn Pinot Noir, the 4th the Lomo con Salsa de Hongos Andinos paired with a Merlot Santa Margarita, and

the 5th a Crocante de Maracuya. Try this wonderful culinary experience!

Roxanne explains that the Peruvian food is influenced by different cultures. "A lot of people came from China to work in the sugar plantations, Japanese came to work in the rice fields and African immigrants brought their influences as well... that's why you see a fusion in the dishes. The typical food and plates from Peru mixed with these influences make up for an excellent cuisine. Our sushi for example is totally different than the standard sushi and we have so many pastas that are outside of Italian pastas. The variety of corn, more than 500 variety of potatoes... I can go on and on." I guess you will need to try it for yourself as Roxanne's place is unique. Asi Es Mi Peru is open every day from 12 noon - 10:30 pm. They are closed on Monday evening. Have a peak on their website <https://www.asiesmiperuenaruba.com/> or Facebook [asiesmiperu](https://www.facebook.com/asiesmiperu). □





Hotel Hustle

Column by: Shanella Pantophlet

A future to come

I recently went to a conference and one of the presenters was the President of ATSA and in reviewing the study they'd done in regards to the timeshare industry there was one very concerning statistic in the numbers.

According to the research done only about 10% of current students want to work in the hospitality sector. I couldn't wrap my head around that number and had various questions of why wouldn't they want to join hospitality, it's our most stable economic pillar and a guaranteed job.

A few weeks later I got my answer in two very different yet poignant ways. We do an annual tour with first year school kids going to the local vocational school and one of the students mentioned that his mother worked for one of the local tour companies and strongly discouraged him against going into the industry. I asked him why and he said, because she's told him that sometimes no matter how much you do to make a guest happy they will find a way to nitpick. I had to admit that was true, but most of us expect to have guests that we won't be able to please, as long as we know we've done our best then we have done our job.



The second instance came later on that day after the tour when a guest came into the office irate. We had to reschedule an activity because our activities coordinator had to leave because she was sick and the person who usually fills in for her was unavailable at the time we needed. We posted notices around as necessary and advised the front desk, however this guest was not aware of the reschedule and when told by the front desk she was not happy. It didn't matter how much we explained the situation and that we had simply rescheduled for the next day instead of canceling outright she was not having it. Looking at it from her side I understood her points, but at that moment she felt we hadn't done everything possible to keep the activity as normal.

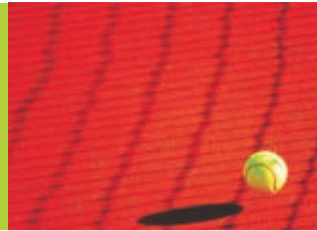
Considering that most everyone working in hospitality has been in the industry for 20+ years and have had to deal with these types of guests or situations many more times over the course of their career than I have, it's understandable to me why they would discourage their kids from joining this line of work. Of course that means they are contributing to the future worker shortage in our most important of industry.

A shortage that needs to be addressed now and going forward in order to encourage the younger generation to want into the most stable industry on the Island. One of the things, I tell all the kids is that for every difficult guest, there are ten who will appreciate the efforts you make. Hotels also need to step up their efforts in being a place that encourage continued education and opportunity for local growth as a means to entice the younger workforce. □



Aruban born and bred Shanella Pantophlet is passionate about tourism. That is the world she studied and works in, so we might as well call her a specialist. Luckily for Aruba Today Shanella also loves to write. And together with the fact that the majority of our readers are tourists, we found ourselves a perfect combination for a column: Hotel Hustle.

SPORTS



USOC moves to shut down USA Gymnastics after Nassar scandal

By EDDIE PELLIS
AP National Writer

The U.S. Olympic Committee is moving to revoke USA Gymnastics' status as the governing body for the sport at the Olympic level, meting out the nuclear option to an organization that has botched its own reorganization in the wake of a sex-abuse scandal involving former team doctor Larry Nassar.

In an open letter to the gymnastics community Monday, USOC CEO Sarah Hirshland said "you deserve better," and that the challenges facing USA Gymnastics are more than it is capable of overcoming as currently constructed.

The organization, even with a newly constituted board of directors, made repeated mistakes after the revelations Nassar molested Olympians while working as a volunteer.

Those included the botched hiring of a program coordinator and an interim CEO to replace Kerry Perry, who lasted barely nine months on the job after replacing Steve Penny. "This is a situation where there are no perfect solutions," Hirshland said.

The announcement comes only days after the U.S. team brought home nine medals from the World Championships in the first major meet on the lead-up to the Tokyo Games in 2020. Five of those were individual medals won by Olympic champion Simone Biles, who is among the athletes who have not hesitated to criticize the organization.

Continued on Page 23

MORE BANG!



Bucks rout Kings as Antetokounmpo gets a triple-double

Milwaukee Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo of Greece dunks over his compatriot, Sacramento Kings' Kosta Koufos during the second half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press
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Brees, Saints hand Rams their 1st loss of the season

By The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Michael Thomas caught a late 72-yard touchdown reception and then celebrated with a cellphone in a throwback to another famous New Orleans play, and the streaking Saints handed the Los Angeles Rams their first loss of the season with a 45-35 win on Sunday.

Drew Brees passed for 346 yards and four touchdowns in New Orleans' seventh straight win, and Thomas finished with a club-record 211 yards receiving. But what happened after their last connection of the day really stole the show in a wild shootout between two of the NFL's best offenses.

Thomas' long TD came on a pivotal third-down play with about four minutes to go, when the Rams seemed to expect the Saints to run a play closer to the first-down marker. Thomas ran free behind Marcus Peters, caught Brees' long throw virtually in stride and ran straight to the goal post, where he got out an old-school flip phone — reminiscent of Joe Horn's Sunday night TD celebration in 2003.

Thomas, who caught 12 passes, eclipsed Wes Chandler's club record of 205 yards receiving against Atlanta in 1979.

New Orleans running back Alvin Kamara scored three times, twice on runs and once on a 16-yard catch-and-run — all in the first half. The Rams (8-1) very nearly pulled off an extraordinary comeback in the Superdome, where the crowd was revved up after New Orleans (7-1) raced to a three-touchdown lead late in the first half.

PATRIOTS 31, PACKERS 17
FOXBOROUGH, Mass. (AP) — Tom Brady threw for 294 yards and a touchdown, and James White ran for two scores to lead New England past Aaron Rodgers and Green Bay.

The Patriots improved to 7-2 with their sixth straight victory.

Rodgers completed 24 of 43 passes and two touchdowns in his second career

matchup with Brady.

It was 17-all late in the third quarter when Aaron Jones fumbled for Green Bay (3-4-1). New England receiver Julian Edelman hit White on a 37-yard catch-and-run to set up White's second score, a 1-yard run. On the Patriots next possession, Brady connected with Josh Gordon for a 55-yard TD. Gordon caught four passes for 115 yards.

TEXANS 19, BRONCOS 17

DENVER (AP) — Brandon McManus missed a 51-yard field goal as time expired, leaving Demaryius Thomas a winner in his homecoming and Houston escaped Denver with a win.

The Texans (6-3) won their sixth straight and the Broncos (3-6) lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Thomas finished with three receptions for 61 yards, but two of them were back-to-back for 31 and 18 yards on the Texans' opening touchdown drive.

McManus' second miss of the game came after Case Keenum completed an 18-yard pass between two defenders to Emmanuel Sanders on fourth-and-8 from the Denver 45-yard line.

Keenum threw a 5-yard pass to tight end Jeff Heurman, who had a career-best 10 catches for 83 yards and then running back Phillip Lindsay lost a yard.

After Denver called a timeout with 3 seconds left, the Texans did the same, then rushed the field in relief after McManus' kick drifted wide right.

CHARGERS 25, SEAHAWKS 17

SEATTLE (AP) — Philip Rivers made his 200th consecutive start and kept Los Angeles surging at the midpoint of the season, surviving a late rally by Seattle's Russell Wilson.

Rivers threw for 228 yards and two touchdowns, Melvin Gordon added 113 yards rushing and the Chargers won their fifth straight with a 25-17 win over the Seahawks on Sunday.

Rivers threw touchdown passes of 12 yards to Tyrell Williams and 30 yards to Mike Williams, and let the



New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady (12) passes under pressure from Green Bay Packers nose tackle Kenny Clark (97) during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, in Foxborough, Mass.

Associated Press

Chargers defense stymie Russell Wilson until the final minutes. Seattle had won four of five following a 0-2 start.

Desmond King provided the deciding points for Los Angeles (6-2) by stepping in front of Wilson's pass for David Moore and returning it 42 yards for a touchdown with 6:44 remaining to give the Chargers a 25-10 lead. Wilson managed to make the final minutes nervous for Los Angeles.

Wilson hit Nick Vannett on a 6-yard TD with 1:50 remaining to cut the Chargers' lead to one score. Seattle got the ball back with 1:24 left at its own 22 and after two completions and a roughing the passer penalty on Melvin Ingram, the Seahawks were at the Chargers 44 with 50 seconds left. Wilson scrambled for 16 yards to the Chargers 28 and, after a spike, Seattle had 30 seconds left.

Seattle (4-4) got a break when Michael Davis was called for pass interference in the end zone on the final play of regulation against Tyler Lockett, putting the ball at the 1 for an untimed down. Seattle's J.R. Sweezy was called for false start backing the play up to the 6, and Wilson's final attempt for David Moore in the back of the end zone

was partially tipped by Jahleel Addae and fell incomplete.

STEELERS 23, RAVENS 16

BALTIMORE (AP) — James Conner rushed for 107 yards and caught a TD pass for the Steelers (5-2-1), who have won four straight since falling to the Ravens at home on Sept. 30.

Roethlisberger went 28 for 47 for 270 yards. His 1-yard run put Pittsburgh up 20-6 in the third quarter, and the 36-year-old showed his grit by missing only one play after being flattened during a sprint from the pocket with just over 13 minutes left.

The Ravens (4-5) scored only one touchdown in their third straight defeat. Joe Flacco was limited to 209 yards passing and sacked twice.

Pittsburgh opened the second half with a drive that lasted nearly seven minutes and ended with a 1-yard plunge by Roethlisberger. The conversion sailed wide to the right, keeping the score at 20-6.

CHIEFS 37, BROWNS 21

CLEVELAND (AP) — Patrick Mahomes passed for 375 yards, threw three touchdown passes — two to Travis Kelce — and continued the best start by an NFL quarterback in 68 years as Kansas City's impossible-to-handle offense kept rolling

with a win over the Browns, who played their first game since coach Hue Jackson's firing.

Kareem Hunt had two scoring runs and one receiving for the Chiefs (8-1), who came in averaging 36.3 points per game with an offense overloaded with weapons for Mahomes.

The 23-year-old used all of them in winning his first pro matchup against Baker Mayfield and the Browns (2-6-1).

Mahomes and Mayfield didn't match their epic college meeting in 2016, when they combined for more than 1,700 yards in offense. But the Chiefs put on another impressive offensive show with 499 total yards, averaging 8.6 per snap.

In his second season, Mahomes, who made just one start as a rookie, already has 29 TD passes and 3,185 yards, the most by any QB through 10 games since 1950. He has passed for at least 300 yards in eight straight games.

VIKINGS 24, LIONS 9

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Danielle Hunter had 3½ of Minnesota's franchise-record 10 sacks and a fourth-quarter fumble return for a touchdown, making for a miserable afternoon for Matthew Stafford and the Lions. □

Djokovic back at No. 1; replaces Nadal, whose season is over

By **HOWARD FENDRICH**
AP Tennis Writer

Novak Djokovic returned to No. 1 on Monday after a two-year absence and is assured of becoming the first man in the history of the ATP rankings to finish a season at the top spot after being outside the top 20 during that season.

That's because the man he overtook, Rafael Nadal, is done for 2018. Nadal withdrew from the ATP Finals on Monday, citing an abdominal injury, and announced he was having arthroscopic surgery on his right ankle. Djokovic will be the ATP's year-ending No. 1 for the fifth time, pulling even with Roger Federer and Jimmy Connors for the second most since the computer rankings began in 1973. Pete Sampras holds the record of six.

"Reflecting on what I've

been through in the last year, it's quite a phenomenal achievement," said Djokovic, who was No. 2 last week and hadn't been No. 1 since November 2016. "And, of course, I'm very, very happy and proud about it. Five months ago, if you told me that ... it was highly improbable at that time, considering my ranking and the way I played and felt on the court."

The 31-year-old from Serbia fell to No. 22 in May after beginning the year with a 6-6 record while recovering from surgery on his right elbow. He hadn't been ranked that low since he was 22nd in 2006 as a teenager.

But Djokovic has gone 43-5 since, including Grand Slam titles at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open after reuniting with Marian Vajda, the longtime coach with

whom he had split.

Djokovic raised his haul of major trophies to 14, tied with Sampras for third most in men's tennis history behind Federer with 20 and Nadal with 17.

The last man to go from outside the top 20 to No. 1 within a single season was Marat Safin, who was No. 38 and No. 1 in 2000, before ending that year at No. 2.

"What Novak has achieved this season has to go down as one of the great sporting comebacks," ATP Executive Chairman Chris Kerner said. "It's been a phenomenal return to form that would have been hard to imagine just six months ago."

Nadal said on Twitter on Monday that he was still bothered by the stomach muscle issue that forced him to withdraw from last week's Paris Masters. Be-



Novak Djokovic of Serbia stretches for the ball return it to Karen Khachanov of Russia during their final match of the Paris Masters tennis tournament at the Bercy Arena in Paris, France, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

cause he wouldn't be competing at the season-ending tournament in London next week, he opted to have ankle surgery now.

He hasn't competed since he retired from his U.S. Open semifinal against Juan Martin del Potro because of a painful right knee.

The 32-year-old Spaniard ends 2018 with a 45-4 record and five titles, including an 11th French Open

championship in June.

John Isner replaces Nadal in the ATP Finals field. □



Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: Hook and Cook your Own Fish!



Oranjestad- Renaissance Marina Downtown is home to the Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood. Herby senior and Herby Junior both share a passion and love for fishing. They know what the local waters have to offer and what fresh fish really means. Over 30 years ago, the idea for the fishing charter was born.

Captain Herby would catch the fish to be served at the restaurant the same day. That concept still lives, what is 'hooked' during the day is cooked in the evening at the restaurant.

Herby shares his experience with his crew, who take out guests daily on their tournament rigged 35ft twin engine

Bertram "Driftwood" or on their more spacious 37ft twin engine Bertram called "Living Easy". Both yachts are available for charters from 8am to 12 noon, or from 1 to 5pm (6-hour trips also available). To book a fishing charter visit www.driftwoodfishingcharters.com or call Herbert direct at (297)-5924040.



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Opening Hours: 5:00pm to 10:30pm (closed on Sundays)

For reservations visit www.driftwoodaruba.com or call (297)-5832515

Address: Klipstraat 12. Oranjestad, Aruba

Russell scores 21, Nets defeat sloppy Sixers 122-97

By The Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — D'Angelo Russell snapped out of a slump with 13 of his 21 points in the second half, and the Brooklyn Nets kept the sloppy Philadelphia 76ers winless on the road with a 122-97 victory on Sunday night. The 76ers committed 28 turnovers, most in the NBA this season, leading to 39 points for the Nets. They fell to 0-5 away from home. They are 6-0 in Philadelphia. Rondae Hollis-Jefferson also scored 21 points and Caris LeVert had 20 for the Nets. They took a small lead into halftime thanks to 17 Philadelphia turnovers, then blew it open with a 41-point third quarter that was one of the biggest in Barclays Center history. They kept pouring it on in the fourth and 76ers coach Brett Brown pulled Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons midway through the period facing a 24-point deficit. Embiid finished with 16 points and 15 rebounds, taking only eight shots a day after going for 39 points and 17 rebounds in a victory over Detroit. Simmons had 20 points and 12 boards.

BUCKS 144, KINGS 109
MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo had his second triple-double this season with 26 points, 15 rebounds and 11 assists to help Milwaukee rout Sacramento. The Bucks improved to 8-1 — the best nine-game start in franchise history. They set a season high for points in a game and also set the fran-



Brooklyn Nets guard D'Angelo Russell (1) shoots over Philadelphia 76ers forward Robert Covington (33) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, in New York. Associated Press

chise record for 3s made with 22. Antetokounmpo's first triple-double came against the Philadelphia 76ers on Oct. 24th when he had 32 points, 18 rebounds and 10 assists. Justin Jackson set a career-high with 22 points, Buddy Hield had 19 and De'Aaron Fox 15 for the Kings who had their five-game winning streak snapped.

WIZARDS 108, KNICKS 95
WASHINGTON (AP) — John Wall scored 26 points and Bradley Beal added 22 as

Washington snapped a five-game losing streak. Markieff Morris had 16 points and Jeff Green added 14 for Washington, which won for the second time in nine games. The Knicks, who fell to 3-7, were led by Enes Kanter's 18 points and 12 rebounds. Trey Burke had 13 points.

MAGIC 117, SPURS 110
SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Aaron Gordon scored 26 points and Orlando held on to beat San Antonio after nearly blowing a 26-point lead with 9 minutes remain-

ing. D.J. Augustin added 18 points for Orlando, which scored a season high and hit 12 3-pointers. DeMar DeRozan had 25 points as San Antonio's four-game winning streak came to an end on the second night of a back-to-back. Orlando snapped a four-game skid, but had to bring its starters back into the game to preserve the victory.

SUNS 102, GRIZZLIES 100
PHOENIX (AP) — Devin Booker's 17-foot jumper with 1.7 seconds left capped a fourth-quarter comeback as Phoenix snapped a seven-game losing streak. Booker scored 14 of his game high 25 points in the final period as Phoenix rallied from 12 points down. Trevor Ariza added 16 points and nine rebounds, and rookie Mikal Bridges scored nine of his 14 points in the fourth quarter. Shelvin Mack's season-high 21 points led the Grizzlies, who got one more possession after Booker's big bucket. But Mike Conley missed a long 3-pointer at the horn. Dillon Brooks scored a season-high 17 points for Memphis, including eight in the fourth quarter.

TRAIL BLAZERS 111, TIMBERWOLVES 81
PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Jusuf Nurkic had 19 points and 12 rebounds and led Portland. Meyers Leonard had a double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds off the bench.

Karl-Anthony Towns finished with 23 points for Minnesota. It was his fourth straight game scoring 20 points or more. Portland, the league's best free-throw shooting team, took advantage of its free-throw attempts in the first two quarters for a 61-45 halftime lead. In the game, the Trail Blazers shot 28 for 32 from the line.

RAPTORS 121, LAKERS 107
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Serge Ibaka made his first 14 shots on the way to a career-high 34 points, and Toronto didn't need an injured Kawhi Leonard in a victory over the Lakers. Ibaka had 10 rebounds and didn't miss a shot until 5:16 remained in the third quarter, finishing 15 of 17 in a masterful performance. Kyle Lowry added 21 points and 15 assists as the Eastern Conference-leading Raptors improved to 9-1 with their eighth consecutive win over the Lakers since 2014. Toronto opened a stunning 31-point lead in the first quarter and didn't let it dwindle significantly until the final minutes, when the Lakers' youngster got the margin down to 117-107 with LeBron James on the bench. Toronto was forced to re-insert its starters in the final minutes to preserve the win. James finished with 18 points and six assists. Kyle Kuzma scored 24 points and Brandon Ingram added 16 for the Lakers. They are 4-6 after their first 10 games with James. □

Red Sox get 3 Gold Glove winners

By The Associated Press
Mookie Betts and the Boston Red Sox just keep winning. Betts, Jackie Bradley Jr. and Ian Kinsler won Gold Gloves for the World Series champion Red Sox on Sunday night, and the Atlanta Braves also were recognized for their fielding excellence this season. The 26-year-old Betts won for the third straight year. He also is a top contender for the AL MVP award.

Kinsler got his second Gold Glove at second base, and Bradley won for the first time in center. Teammate Andrew Benintendi also was nominated, but Kansas City Royals left fielder Alex Gordon took home his sixth Gold Glove instead. Atlanta added three Gold Gloves to its surprise NL East title this season. Freddie Freeman and Cubs slugger Anthony Rizzo tied for the award at first base, and center fielder Ender In-

ciarte and right fielder Nick Markakis also were honored for the Braves. It's the third straight Gold Glove for Inciarte. Markakis won for the first time in the NL and third time overall, ending Jason Heyward's run of four in a row. Pittsburgh left fielder Corey Dickerson rounds out the NL winners. Houston pitcher Dallas Keuchel and Los Angeles Angels shortstop Andrelton Simmons also won in the AL. □



In this July 22, 2018, file photo, Boston Red Sox right fielder Mookie Betts, front left, and center fielder Jackie Bradley Jr., right, greet teammates after a win over the Detroit Tigers in a baseball game in Detroit.

Associated Press

Gourde lifts Lightning past Senators in OT

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Yanni Gourde scored 14 seconds into overtime to lift the Tampa Bay Lightning to a 4-3 victory over the Ottawa Senators on Sunday night.

Brayden Point tied the score with 27 seconds left in regulation on a two-man advantage off a pass from Tyler Johnson to send the game to the extra period. Point also had an assist on Gourde's winner.

Cedric Paquette and Mathieu Joseph also scored for the Lightning, and Louis Domingue stopped 22 shots. Ryan McDonagh had three assists.

Bobby Ryan, Maxime LaJoie and Cody Ceci had the goals for the Senators.

Craig Anderson finished with 41 saves a day after giving up three goals on 10 shots before being pulled in a 9-2 loss to Buffalo.

RANGERS 3, SABRES 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Henrik Lundqvist stopped 39 shots and Jimmy Vesey scored twice to lead New York to its third straight win.

Neal Pionk also scored for the Rangers and rookie Brett Howden picked up his sixth assist of the season before leaving with an injury in the second period.

Lundqvist was stellar while picking up his fourth win of the season and 435th of his career, moving just two behind Jacques Plante for seventh place on the NHL's all-time list.



Tampa Bay Lightning defenseman Slater Koekkoek clears Ottawa Senators left wing Tom Pyatt off the puck during the first period of an NHL hockey game in Ottawa, Ontario, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

DUCKS 3, BLUE JACKETS 2, OT

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Cam Fowler completed his first career hat trick 36 seconds into overtime as Anaheim ended a seven-game losing streak.

John Gibson made 24 saves for the Ducks, who had been 0-5-2 since defeating the New York Islanders 4-1 on Oct. 17.

Pierre-Luc Dubois scored twice for the Blue Jackets, who lost the final two games of their three-game California road trip. Joonas Korpisalo made 27 saves.

Fowler scored on a one-timer from Adam Henrique to end Anaheim's losing skid. It was Fowler's 56th career goal, tying Francois Beauchemin for second-most by a Anaheim defenseman all-time. □

Connor Sheary scored for Buffalo and Carter Hutton made 19 saves.

Steinbrenner, Piniella, Johnson on Hall ballot next month

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. (AP)

— Late New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, former managers Lou Piniella, Davey Johnson and Charlie Manuel, and six players headed by Lee Smith are on the 10-man ballot for the baseball Hall of Fame's Today's Game Era committee to consider next month.

Harold Baines, Albert Belle, Will Clark, Orel Hershiser and Joe Carter also are on the ballot for the 16-man committee, which meets Dec. 9 at the winter meetings in Las Vegas. The committee considers candidates from 1998 to the present, and a candidate needs at least 75 percent of the vote to be elected.

Any candidate picked will be inducted July 21 along with any players elected by the Baseball Writers' Association of America in a vote announced Jan. 22. Mariano Rivera and the late Roy Halladay join a ballot with top returnees Edgar Martinez and Mike Mussina.

When the Today's Game Era committee last met two years ago, former baseball Commissioner Bud Selig and Atlanta Braves executive John Schuerholz were



In this Feb. 17, 2004, file photo, New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner waves to fans in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

elected. Piniella received seven votes, while Baines, Belle, Clark, Hershiser, Johnson and Steinbrenner each received fewer than five. Mark McGwire also received fewer than five and was dropped from this year's ballot.

Smith's highest voting percentage during 15 years on the Baseball Writers' Association of America ballot was 50.6 percent in 2012. He received 34.2 percent in his 15th and final appearance in 2017.

Baines never received

more than 6.1 percent and was dropped after his fifth appearance in 2011 for falling under the 5 percent threshold. Hershiser and Belle were dropped after their second appearances in 2007, and Carter (2004) and Clark (2006) after their first. The Hall has four committees. Modern Baseball (1970-87) meets in December 2019 and Golden Days (1950-69) and Early Baseball (before 1950) in December 2020.

The 16 voters this year will be announced later. □



Runners wait at the starting line during the New York City Marathon on Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018, in New York.

NYC Marathon sets record with nearly 53,000 finishers

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York City Marathon has set a record for the most finishers of any marathon worldwide — 52,812.

Organizers said Monday the total topped the mark of 51,394 from the 2016 NYC Marathon. The race through the city's five boroughs Sunday was watched by more than 1

million spectators on a crisp fall day. Lelisa Desisa of Ethiopia and Mary Keitany of Kenya were the men's and women's winners. It was Keitany's fourth victory in New York. Desisa won this race for the first time.

The wheelchair winners were Daniel Romanchuk of the U.S. and Manuela Schar of Switzerland. □



Crew beats Red Bulls 1-0 in first leg of Eastern semifinal

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Gyasi Zardes scored his 20th goal of the season in the 61st minute, helping the Columbus Crew beat the Supporters' Shield holder New York Red Bulls 1-0 on Sunday in the opening game of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The second leg is next Sunday in Harrison, New Jersey. Zardes had a sliding finish of a back-heel pass from second-half substitute Federico Higuain. It was Zardes' third career postseason goal.

New York goalkeeper Luis Robles denied Pedro Santos' open shot from distance in the 89th, and Steffen blocked Bradley Wright-Phillips' glancing header in stoppage time. New York's best scoring chance came in the 27th minute when Tim Parker headed a corner kick off the post that deflected off Steffen and was cleared away.

TIMBERS 2, SOUNDERS 1

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Sebastian Blanco put the Timbers in front with a goal in the 29th minute and Portland hung on over a tense second half in the first leg of the Western Conference



D.C. United midfielder Nick DeLeon, center, battles for the ball against Columbus Crew SC defender Milton Valenzuela, right, and goalkeeper Zack Steffen (23) during the first half of extra time of an MLS playoff soccer match, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018, in Washington. The Crew SC won 2-2 (3-2) in penalty kicks.

Associated Press

semifinals.

The second leg is set for Thursday night in Seattle. Ruidiaz scored in the 10th minute for the Sounders. The Timbers pulled even a short time later on Jeremy Ebobisse's goal, and moved in front on Blanco's goal.

ATLANTA UNITED 1, NYCFC 0

NEW YORK (AP) — Eric Remedi scored his first MLS goal in the 37th minute and Atlanta United beat New York FC in the first leg of the Eastern Conference semifinals.

Atlanta, which has won 11

of its 18 road games this season, will host the second leg next Sunday. Remedi tapped in a rebound after Josef Martinez's one-touch shot was blocked by Sean Johnson and settled against the post.

SPORTING KC 1, REAL SALT LAKE 1, TIE

SANDY, Utah (AP) — Diego Rubio scored from distance in the 60th minute, seconds after entering as a second-half substitute, and Western Conference champion Sporting Kansas City tied Real Salt Lake in Game 1 of the two-legged semifinal. □



Floyd Mayweather, left, of the U.S. shakes hands with Japanese kickboxer Tenshin Nasukawa during a press conference in Tokyo, Monday, Nov. 5, 2018.

Associated Press

Mayweather to fight Japanese kickboxer Nasukawa in December

TOKYO (AP) — Floyd Mayweather is planning on fighting Japanese kickboxer Tenshin Nasukawa on Dec. 31 in Saitama, north of Tokyo.

The 41-year-old Mayweather is 50-0 in his boxing career but has never fought professionally under MMA rules. Although he did have a lucrative win over MMA fighter Conor McGregor last year.

Japanese promoter the RIZIN Fighting Federation on Monday said rules and the weight class for the bout have not been set.

"We still have some work to

do," said Nobuyuki Sakakibara, the RIZIN chairman. The 20-year-old Nasukawa, speaking at a news conference alongside Mayweather, called it "probably the biggest event of my life so far."

He also vowed to end Mayweather's long string of victories.

"Nobody has defeated my opponent in the past, and I would like to be the man who makes history," Nasukawa said, speaking through an interpreter. "My punch can change history. And I will show that to you. So please stay tuned." □

USOC

Continued from Page 18

By decertifying USA Gymnastics, the USOC is taking major action against an organization that couldn't grasp its own rebuilding. But the move also leaves a void that cannot be easily filled. In addition to supporting elite and Olympic athletes, USA Gymnastics serves more than 150,000 athletes in 3,000 clubs around the country. There is no other organization standing by to fill that need.

The federal law that governs the USOC gives the federation final say on which organizations represent each sport at the Olympics, and also establishes a process to decertify the organizations. Hirshland said she has given

USA Gymnastics the option of surrendering its recognition voluntarily.

USAG issued a statement saying it was looking at the USOC letter "and is evaluating the best path forward for our athletes, professional members, the organization and staff."

The statement detailed the challenges the new board has faced since taking over in June.

It is in search of its fourth president and CEO in the last 19 months thanks to a series of resignations, all of them under pressure from the USOC or the gymnastics' community at large.

Penny — named as a co-defendant in several civil lawsuits filed by former elite gymnasts — stepped down in March 2017. He was arrested last month and



In this Feb. 5, 2018, file photo, Larry Nassar listens during his sentencing at Eaton County Circuit Court in Charlotte, Mich.

Associated Press

charged with destroying or hiding documents related to Nassar's activities at the Karolyi Ranch, the ex-national training center near Huntsville, Texas, where a number of gymnasts said Nassar abused them.

The organization named Perry as Penny's replacement but her ineffectual tenure lasted barely nine months. She came under fire from several high-profile gymnasts, Biles included, for failing to offer a

clear vision on the way forward and quit in September. Her resignation came shortly after the hiring, then quick removal, of Mary Lee Tracy as elite development coordinator; Tracy had been supportive of Nassar when the allegations first surfaced. USA Gymnastics brought on former U.S. Representative Mary Bono to serve as interim president and CEO last month. Bono didn't even make it a week, stepping away after drawing widespread criticism for an Instagram post she made shortly before she was hired that showed her coloring over the Nike logo on her golf cleats in response to the company putting former NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick at the forefront of a marketing campaign. □

How 'net neutrality' became a hot-button issue

By MAE ANDERSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — For a fundamentally nerdy subject, net neutrality is pushing a lot of political buttons.

The latest salvo is over a California law that restores a ban on cable, wireless and other broadband providers from impeding people's ability to use their favorite apps and services. The federal government had rescinded that ban, and the Trump administration is seeking to block California's effort as an imposition on federal prerogatives.

Though net neutrality started off more than a decade ago as an insight into how to make networks work most efficiently, it has taken on much larger social and political dimensions lately. The issue has emerged as an anti-monopoly rallying point and even a focus for "resistance" to the Trump administration.

"Any time the cable companies and the Trump administration are on one side, it looks good for companies to be on the other side," Boston Law School professor Daniel Lyons said. But the idea hasn't always been political or partisan. Net neutrality traces back to an engineering maxim called the "end-to-end principle," a self-regulating network that put control in the hands of end users rather than a central authority. Traditional cable-TV services, for instance, required special equipment and controlled what channels are shown on TV. With an end-to-end network like the internet, the types of equipment, apps, articles and video services permitted are limited only to imagination.

And the internet subsequently grew like nobody's business — largely because it wasn't anyone's business. But as internet use expanded, so did the power of the big companies that offer internet service to the masses. It became clear that they could, and sometimes would, restrict what people did. The Associated Press found in 2007



In this June 19, 2018, file photo a router and internet switch are displayed in East Derry, N.H.

Associated Press

that Comcast was blocking or slowing down some file-sharing. AT&T blocked Skype and other internet-calling services on the iPhone until 2009.

Law professor Tim Wu, now at Columbia University, coined the term "net neutrality" in 2003 to argue for government rules that would prevent big internet providers from discriminating against technology and services that clashed with other aspects of their business. Allowing such discrimination, he reasoned, would choke off innovation.

Big telecommunications companies, on the other hand, argue that they should be able to control the pipes they built and owned.

The Federal Communications Commission subscribed to the principle of net neutrality for over a de-

cade and enshrined that as specific rules in 2015 under chairman Tom Wheeler, an Obama appointee. Among the rules: Broadband companies couldn't block websites and apps of their choosing. Nor could they charge Netflix and other video services extra to reach viewers more smoothly.

Once President Donald Trump took office, net neutrality became one of his first targets as part of broader government deregulation. The FCC chairman he appointed, Ajit Pai, made rollback a top priority.

And thus net neutrality became increasingly political. As a vote loomed for months, the once-obscure concept was debated endlessly on talk shows and online chats. Big-time Hollywood producer Shonda Rhimes tweeted a link to

a story about saving net neutrality on her lifestyle website. Actor Mark Ruffalo urged people to contact members of Congress by tweeting, "Long live cute dog videos on YouTube! #RIPinternet."

The debate created strange bedfellows: Support for net neutrality comes from many of the same people who are also critical of the data-sucking tech giants who benefit from it.

Yet on net neutrality, these tech companies got to be the "good guy," siding on the side of the younger "digital first" generation and consumer groups calling for more protection. No matter that these companies are keeping their own business interests at heart, as a net-neutrality rollback could mean higher costs for access to the "pipes."

Politicians glommed on to

the debate to appear consumer friendly.

"No politician will ever lose votes by supporting net neutrality," said Gus Hurwitz, law professor at the University of Nebraska and a member of the conservative group The Federalist Society. "It's an ill-defined term that voters don't really understand other than that it is a scary concept they know they don't want to lose."

Meanwhile, ISPs haven't done themselves any favors in appealing to the consumer. They've long had a reputation for bad service and high prices. Unlike the high-profile support for net neutrality, the opposition was limited to behind-the-scenes lobbying.

Nonetheless, the FCC rolled back the net-neutrality rules last December on a 3-2 party-line vote. The decision took effect in June.

On Monday, the Supreme Court declined to hear appeals from the broadband industry to strike down a lower court ruling in 2016 that was in favor of net neutrality. That effectively shut down an appeal that had already become largely moot when the FCC rolled back the rules. But in other arenas the fight is likely to drag on.

Several tech companies including Mozilla and Vimeo are challenging the FCC's rollback decision in a federal appeals court. That's separate from the challenge to the California law, which is on hold until the tech companies' lawsuit is resolved. Oral arguments in the tech companies' case are expected in February.

Oregon, Washington and Vermont have also approved legislation related to net neutrality.

And a Democratic takeover of the House in Tuesday's midterm elections could revive efforts to enact net neutrality into federal law, though Trump would likely veto any such attempts.

"Net neutrality is only the fifth round of a 12-round boxing match," Wedbush Securities Managing Director Dan Ives said. □

Fed likely to keep rates on hold and sketch a bright outlook

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the economy strong, wages rising and unemployment at a near-five-decade low, the Federal Reserve remains on track to keep raising interest rates — just not this week.

After the Fed's latest policy meeting, it's expected to signal a healthy outlook for the economy but to hold off on any further credit tightening, most likely until December. A rate hike in December would mark the fourth this year.

Further rate increases are expected in 2019, though just how many is a subject of speculation. On the eve of Congress' midterm elections, the U.S. economy remains vigorous even in its 10th year of expansion — the second-longest such stretch on record.

In deciding how fast or slowly to keep raising rates, the Fed will be monitoring the pace of growth, the job market's strength and gauges of inflation for clues to how the economy may evolve in the coming months. The brisk pace of economic growth — a 3.5 percent annual rate in the July-September quarter, after a 4.2 percent rate in the previous quarter — has raised the risk that inflation could begin accelerating. In its most recent forecast, the Fed projected that it would raise rates three ad-



In this Oct. 31, 2018, file photo Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell looks over papers as the Federal Reserve Board holds a meeting at the Marriner S. Eccles Federal Reserve Board Building in Washington.

Associated Press

ditional times in 2019. Some economists, though, foresee only two hikes. Others expect economic growth to remain solid and the job market strong and that the Fed will decide that four rate increases will be justified next year to guard against high inflation. At 3.7 percent, the unemployment rate is already at its lowest level since 1969.

"The Fed is going to have to continue raising rates next year because the unemployment rate is going to keep falling to close to 3 percent, well beyond full employment," said Mark

Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. "There is nothing but green lights for more rate hikes straight ahead."

On Friday, the government reported that the economy added a sizable 250,000 jobs in October and that average pay rose 3.1 percent over the previous 12 months — the sharpest year-over-year gain in nearly a decade. That's welcome news for workers. But it's a trend that may raise concern that accelerating wages will help fuel undesirably high inflation.

Chairman Jerome Powell

has stressed that the Fed is determined to follow a middle-of-the-road approach: Keep gradually nudging up rates to control inflation but avoid tightening too aggressively and perhaps triggering a recession.

"They are walking a tightrope," said Diane Swonk, chief economist at Grant Thornton.

The Fed has raised rates three times this year, lifting its benchmark rate to a range — 2 percent to 2.25 percent — that is still low by historical standards. Most economists think the statement the Fed will is-

sue Thursday after its policy meeting ends will hint of another imminent increase, likely in December.

The Fed's policymakers have stressed, and most economists agree, that these small quarter-point increases amount to a gradual pace of credit tightening. But President Donald Trump has sharply disagreed, and since the stock market started tumbling last month, he has attacked the Fed's rate hikes as well as Powell's leadership. Trump's public criticism has aroused concern that he is intruding on the central bank's long-respected political independence and its need to operate free of outside pressure.

At the same time, the nervousness among stock investors reflects the reality that the Fed's steady march toward higher rates is removing a key factor that has underpinned the bull market in stocks: The richer returns that investors could achieve in stocks than in bonds or savings accounts. Fed critics had charged that the central bank was creating a bubble in stocks that would eventually pop with disastrous results. Trump, who has often invoked high stock prices as evidence that his economic policies are succeeding, has made clear his disagreement. □

US services firms' growth slipped in Oct. after record Sept.

By **JOSH BOAK**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. services firms expanded at a slightly slower rate in October, after achieving a record pace in September in a sign of the economy's strength and endurance. The Institute for Supply Management, which is composed of purchasing managers, reported Monday that its services index dipped to 60.3 in October, down from 61.6 in September. Readings above 50 point to further growth. Services companies have been expanding for 105 months, or nearly nine

years.

"I was surprised it came in as strong as it did," said Anthony Nieves, chair of the ISM's services survey committee.

Seventeen services industries said that they grew last month, with just educational services saying they contracted.

The U.S. economy has been energized this year after the deficit-funded tax cuts signed into law by President Donald Trump at the end of 2017. Economic growth has accelerated with an annualized gain of 3.5 percent in the third-quarter and 4.2 percent in the second-

quarter. Employers added a solid 250,000 jobs in October as the unemployment rate held at a half-century low of 3.7 percent.

The business activity and employment components of the index fell in September, although they still registered growth and suggest the expansion — already the second longest in U.S. history — will continue.

Multiple companies surveyed for the index said they're experiencing strong demand, but several firms also warned that tariffs could weigh on their businesses in the coming months.

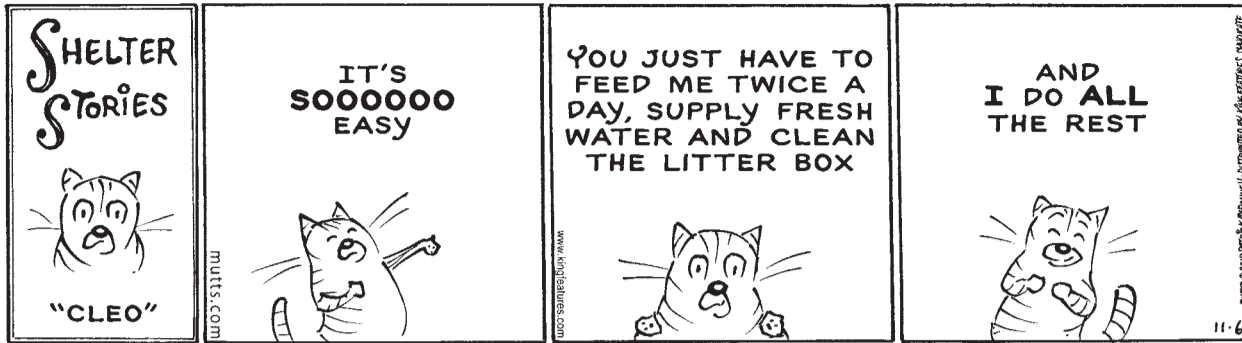


In this July 19, 2018, file photo a roofer works on top of the church at St. Lucy Parish in Methuen, Mass.

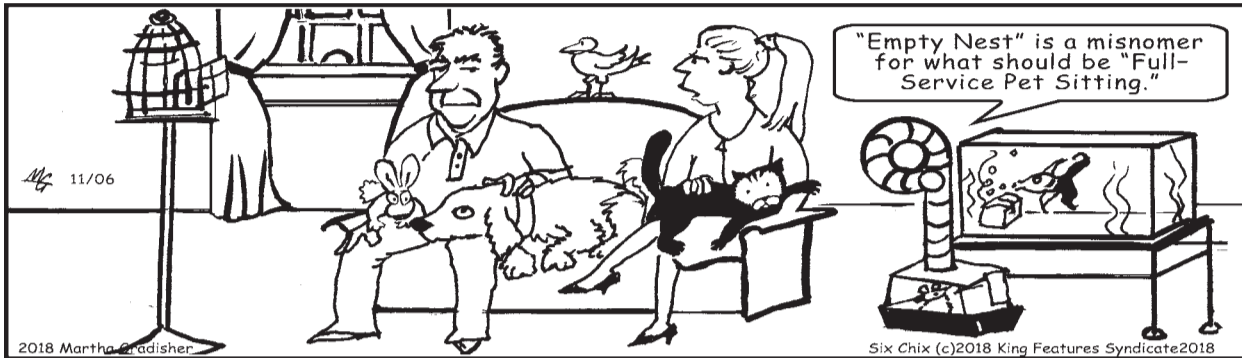
Associated Press

Private services companies account for more than 70 percent of U.S. nonfarm jobs. □

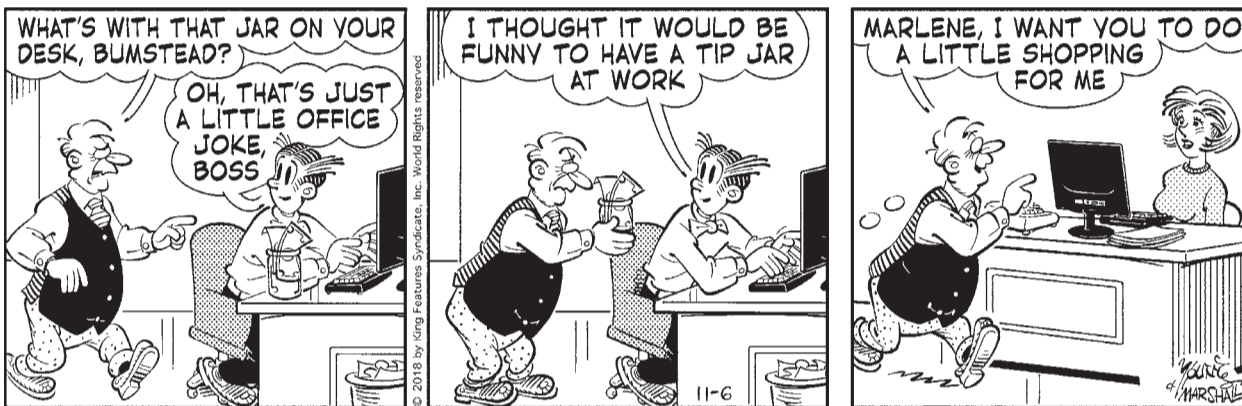
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



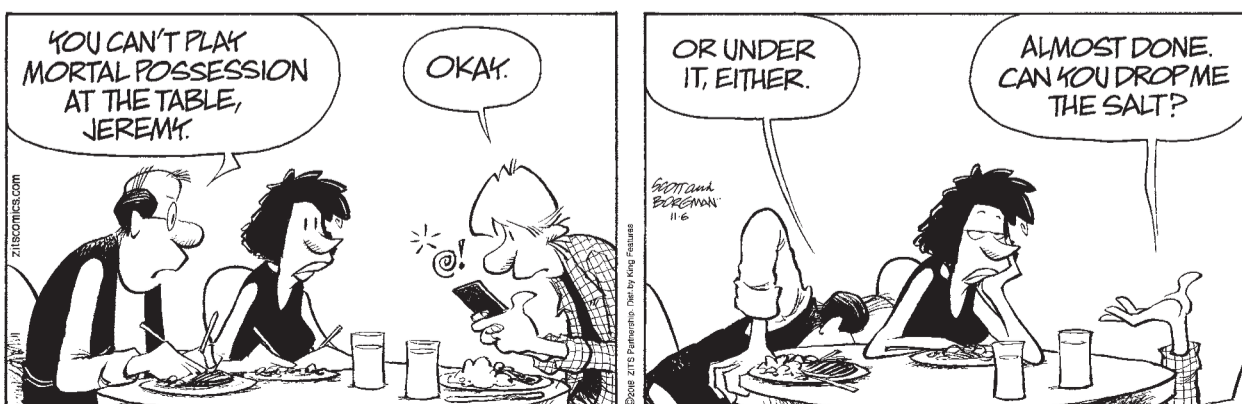
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	9		2	5		7	
8				6			9
		4			8		
3			9	2			7
	1					5	
9			7	1			3
		6			5		
2				1			6
	7		8		6	1	

Difficulty Level ★★

11/06

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

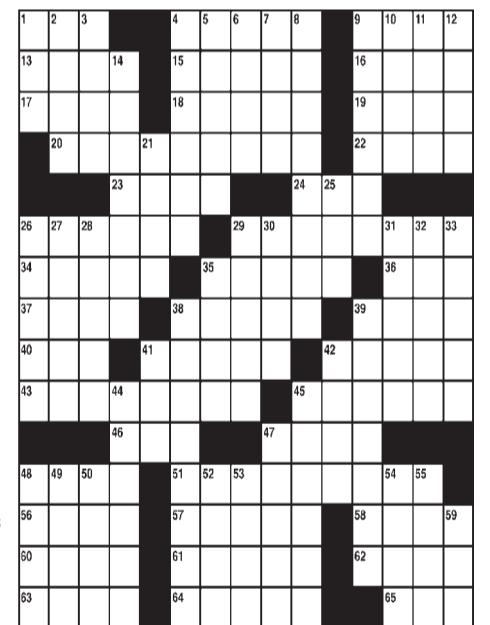
8	9	7	6	4	3	2	1	5
5	2	4	8	1	9	6	3	7
1	3	6	2	7	5	9	8	4
2	5	3	7	9	4	1	6	8
4	8	9	3	6	1	5	7	2
6	7	1	5	8	2	4	9	3
9	6	5	4	3	8	7	2	1
7	4	8	1	2	6	3	5	9
3	1	2	9	5	7	8	4	6

ACROSS

- That woman
- Ice cream portion
- Garfunkel & others
- Fine-tune a manuscript
- Collection of treasures
- South American nation
- At __; relaxed
- Levels, as a building
- Fibbed
- Glee
- Small bills
- Cleans the floor
- Common street name
- Drink
- Riding __; saddleless
- Dinghies & dories
- Records
- Forbidden
- Part of the foot
- Prepared to take a selfie
- "Arsenic and Old __"; Cary Grant film
- Suffix for count or govern
- Carrying a gun
- Caffe __; chocolate-flavored coffee
- Close call
- Addicted
- Pork product
- Reserve a room
- Jittery
- Greek love deity
- Difficult child
- Give first aid to
- Tidy
- Shower alternative
- Spooky
- Deep long cut
- Flower stalk
- Use one's money
- Pigpen

DOWN

- TV's " __ Haw"
- Cheese in a red wax
- Ascend
- 1 of 13 on the U.S. flag



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/6/18

Monday's Puzzle Solved

PLUS	TIPS	ACTS
LANES	ROOM	BORE
ONSET	OUTANDOUT	
TKO	RHO	ROUSES
CHEAP	TIC	
PRIEST	PISTOL	
REAMS	PRONE	VAT
EBBS	PRONG	ZERO
YUL	SHOWY	DIRGE
TESTED	MINCED	
PEA	PITCH	
ECHOES	ASH	ADO
CHARLATAN	ERRED	
RUST	NEAT	RAGED
UMPS	TEAS	WEDS

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11/6/18

- at; beholding
- " __ Rock"; Simon & Garfunkel hit
- Frame of mind
- Musical beat
- Made owl noises
- Cerebellum's place
- Declines
- Word of mild disgust
- Fence opening
- Get ready, for short
- Roll call response
- Soothing drinks
- Vane direction
- Your, in the Bible

Mountain caribou in lower 48 states being sent to Canada

Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) —

The six mountain caribou remaining in the lower 48 states will be relocated farther north into Canada, a move that ends decades of efforts to reintroduce the large animals into Idaho and Washington state.

The Spokesman Review says biologists hope to breed the few survivors of the South Selkirk herd in captivity north of Revelstoke, British Columbia.

"This is what extinction looks like, and it must be a wake-up call for wildlife and habitat managers in both Canada and the United States," said Joe Scott, international programs director for Conservation Northwest.

The news "marks the tragic end of an era," he said.

Mountain caribou were listed as an endangered species in the U.S. in 1983.

The Kalispel Tribe in Washington state has been involved in a breeding project to try and expand the herd, but the project failed. The South Selkirk herd ranged along the crest of the Selkirk Mountains near the Canada border. About 14 other herds that include an estimated 1,400 mountain caribou, wander the tundra farther north of the border.

Known as Grey Ghosts because of how rarely they are seen, the South Selkirk caribou use their wide feet



This undated photo provided by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks shows two caribou in northwest Montana.

Associated Press

to stand on top of deep snow and eat lichen that grows high in old-growth forests.

Bart George, a wildlife biologist for the Kalispels, hopes the herd can start expanding again in Canada and that caribou will spill into the U.S.

In 2009, George said, the South Selkirk herd had 46 animals and was increasing every year before wolves entered the region.

"That's been our primary source of mortality that we've known about," George said.

Logging roads and increased snowmobiling also

played a part in the demise of the herd.

"We really didn't mobilize until it was too late," George said. □



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November 7

Zuiderdam

Freewinds

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More protection: UN says Earth's ozone layer is healing

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**
WASHINGTON (AP) —

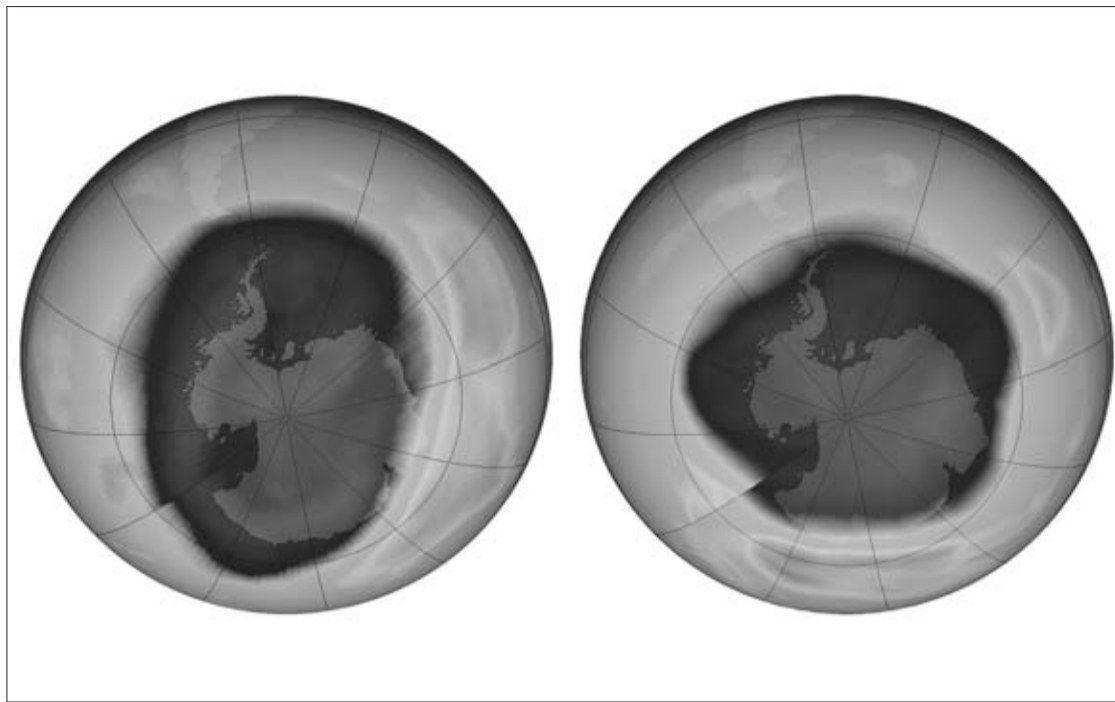
Earth's protective ozone layer is finally healing from damage caused by aerosol sprays and coolants, a new United Nations report said.

The ozone layer had been thinning since the late 1970s. Scientist raised the alarm and ozone-depleting chemicals were phased out worldwide.

As a result, the upper ozone layer above the Northern Hemisphere should be completely repaired in the 2030s and the gaping Antarctic ozone hole should disappear in the 2060s, according to a scientific assessment released Monday at a conference in Quito, Ecuador. The Southern Hemisphere lags a bit and its ozone layer should be healed by mid-century.

"It's really good news," said report co-chairman Paul Newman, chief Earth scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. "If ozone-depleting substances had continued to increase, we would have seen huge effects. We stopped that."

High in the atmosphere,



This combination of images made available by NASA shows areas of low ozone above Antarctica on September 2000, left, and September 2018.

Associated Press

ozone shields Earth from ultraviolet rays that cause skin cancer, crop damage and other problems. Use of man-made chemicals called chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which release chlorine and bromine, began eating away at the ozone. In 1987, countries around the world agreed in the Montreal Protocol to phase out CFCs and businesses came up with replace-

ments for spray cans and other uses.

At its worst in the late 1990s, about 10 percent of the upper ozone layer was depleted, said Newman. Since 2000, it has increased by about 1 to 3 percent per decade, the report said. This year, the ozone hole over the South Pole peaked at nearly 9.6 million square miles (24.8 million square kilometers). That's about

16 percent smaller than the biggest hole recorded — 11.4 million square miles (29.6 million square kilometers) in 2006.

The hole reaches its peak in September and October and disappears by late December until the next Southern Hemisphere spring, Newman said.

The ozone layer starts at about 6 miles (10 kilometers) above Earth and

stretches for nearly 25 miles (40 kilometers); ozone is a colorless combination of three oxygen atoms.

If nothing had been done to stop the thinning, the world would have destroyed two-thirds of its ozone layer by 2065, Newman said.

But it's not a complete success yet, said University of Colorado's Brian Toon, who wasn't part of the report.

"We are only at a point where recovery may have started," Toon said, pointing to some ozone measurements that haven't increased yet.

Another problem is that new technology has found an increase in emissions of a banned CFC out of East Asia, the report noted.

And the replacements now being used to cool cars and refrigerators need to be replaced themselves with chemicals that don't worsen global warming, Newman said. An amendment to the Montreal Protocol that goes into effect next year would cut use of some of those gases.

"I don't think we can do a victory lap until 2060," Newman said. "That will be for our grandchildren to do." □

Watchdog reviewing plan to relocate key USDA office

By **JULIET LINDERMAN**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The USDA's internal watchdog will examine the agency's plan to restructure its top independent research office and move it out of the District of Columbia, actions some lawmakers and staff fear could leave research on contentious issues like climate change and the social safety net vulnerable to political pressures.

The agency's inspector general will review the

proposed changes to the roughly 300-person Economic Research Service, said two Democratic House members, D.C. Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton, and Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer, whose Maryland district is right outside the city.

The Economic Research Service is responsible for providing research and analysis to USDA and other federal agencies, as well as the White House and Congress, on topics such as food security and safety,

agricultural economy and natural resources.

USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue in August announced a plan to move it, and another research office, the roughly 400-person National Institute of Food and Agriculture, to a yet-undetermined location outside the Washington area by the end of 2019.

The plan also called for ERS to be moved from the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics to the Office of the Chief

Economist, which directly advises Perdue on the economic impact of USDA policies.

A USDA spokesperson said Thursday that the relocation would place the two offices closer to stakeholders, cut down on unnecessary costs and help with recruiting efforts, which Perdue claims have been sluggish.

Some agency employees and scientists are concerned this could result in the politicization of an office that serves as the neutral analyst for the USDA. The Trump administration had already proposed slashing the office's budget and eliminating "low-priority research."

Hoyer and Norton sought the inspector general review, questioning whether USDA can legally relocate

an agency without congressional approval or budget authority.

The lawmakers said Thursday the review will determine whether the USDA followed proper procedures and conducted a cost-benefit analysis.

Separately, the Senate Agriculture Committee's chair and ranking member, Pat Roberts, R-Kansas, and Debbie Stabenow, D-Michigan, wrote to Perdue in September asking about the proposal.

Last month more than 1,100 scientists signed a petition urging Congress to delay the reorganization.

Last week Perdue announced the agency has received 136 expressions of interest from parties in 35 states interested in becoming the new home of the two offices. □

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Camila Cabello wins best artist and best song at MTV EMAs

BILBAO, Spain (AP) — Cuban-American singer Camila Cabello was the big winner at the MTV EMAs gala in Spain on Sunday, while Janet Jackson used her acceptance speech for a life-time achievement award to take a stand for women's rights.

Jackson was honored with the Global Icon Award for her four-decade, 11-album career that started when she was a child growing up in the family that also produced her music legend brother, Michael, and The Jackson Five.

The 52-year-old Jackson showed she still has her dance moves while performing a medley of "Made for Now," "All for You" and "Rhythm Nation" while accompanied by African drummers and torchbearers. She later said her award came with a responsibility. "Tonight I feel moved to speak for those women whose voices have been stifled," she said. "I am one of those voices, women who have been gagged, literally and emotionally, women who have been abused, women who have



Singer Camila Cabello accepts the Best Artist award during the European MTV Awards in Bilbao, Spain, Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018.

Associated Press

been intimidated, women who have lived in fear, I stand with you.

"Tonight I carry the hope that a new world is emerging. Women, our voices will be heard!" Other than Jackson's call for gender equality, the show was all about the dazzle provided by the costumes, choreog-

raphy and the elaborate light and video displays on the huge circular stage.

With pop star Ariana Grande shut out despite her five nominations, Cabello was the undisputed star of the night.

The 21-year-old Cabello beat out Grande, Drake, Dua Lipa and Post Malone

for best artist, while her sultry hit "Havana" took the trophy for best song and best video. She also topped the category for best act.

Last year, Cabello won the award for best pop artist at the edition held in London. Born in Havana before her family left for Miami, Cabello was discovered on the

U.S. version of X-Factor and formed a part of the group Fifth Harmony.

The 25th edition of the awards, formerly known as the as the MTV Europe Music Awards, was as usual loaded with eye-catching performances, as well as references to Bilbao's links to the art world, first and foremost thanks to the city's Guggenheim Museum.

Host Hailee Steinfeld opened the show with a video sketch featuring her breaking into an art gallery to "steal" one of the MTV trophies, only to then emerge on stage in a tiny silver dress. Several costume changes later, she became a "work of art," in her words, when she donned a long white dress and was sprayed with blue and yellow paint.

After Nicki Minaj and Little Mix got the music going, the singer of Panic! At The Disco made an action-movie entry. Frontman Brendon Urie was depicted in a video as climbing down the façade of the Bilbao Exhibition Centre before he was lowered from the hall's ceiling while singing the opening of "High Hopes." □

'Anything You Can Imagine' recounts quest to film Tolkien

By DOUGLASS K. DANIEL
Associated Press

"Anything You Can Imagine: Peter Jackson & the Making of Middle-earth" (HarperCollins), by Ian Nathan

Reaching the final sentence in film writer Ian Nathan's 576-page exploration of movie director Peter Jackson's "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy requires the stoicism of Frodo and the vigor of Gandalf. So much detail lies along the way that even the eye of Sauron would need a shot of Visine to keep going.

That shouldn't put off fans of the films that, collectively, gained 30 Oscar nominations and 17 of the golden statuettes, including a Best Picture award for the finale, 2003's "The Return of the King." Oh, and they left behind a worldwide box office stuffed with a couple billion dollars, too.

Jackson's movies are a marvel of cinematic storytelling, likely to remain so because he came to understand that the special effects should be deployed not just to thrill but also to give emotional life to novelist J.R.R. Tolkien's world. (It's an epiphany that Jackson apparently forgot with the bloated "King Kong" and his overstretched LOTR follow-up, "The Hobbit.")

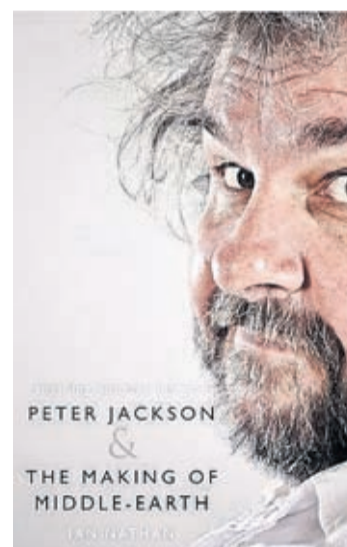
In breezy and often cheeky prose, Nathan tells a grand story worthy of the annals of great filmmaking: A little-known New Zealand director wins over Hollywood moneybags to translate Tolkien to film, once thought to be an impossible task given the complexity of Tolkien's vision of a place called Middle-earth and the hobbits, wizards, dwarves, elves and others who inhabit it.

Tolkien himself shrugged

off the idea of a movie version in the late 1950s. A decade later, in 1967, his books enormously popular on college campuses, the aged Oxford professor accepted 104,000 British pounds for the film rights in (gasp!) perpetuity. In hindsight, it's enough to make an orc cry.

For decades, however, Tolkien's folly appeared to be a good deal as one effort after another failed and the rights became a cinematic albatross. The most fanciful idea may have come from the Beatles, who asked "2001" director Stanley Kubrick to join them in presenting a music-infused version with Paul as Frodo, George as Gandalf, John as Gollum and Ringo as Sam (so reports Jackson after a chat with McCartney).

The hero of the quest to film "The Lord of the Rings" is



This cover image released by HarperCollins shows "Anything You Can Imagine: Peter Jackson and the Making of Middle-earth" by Ian Nathan.

Associated Press

Jackson, but he doesn't set out alone. From co-screenwriters and producers to special-effects masters and illustrators, those in the fellowship he assembled matched his enthusiasm

for the years it took to complete the trilogy. Nathan wisely explores and celebrates their unique contributions, not just those of actors Elijah Wood, Viggo Mortensen and other more easily identifiable participants. A chapter on movie music master Howard Shore is particularly welcome for explaining the usually overlooked composition of film scores.

Nathan also takes a Helm's Deep dive into the films' best creations, their characters as well as their sequences. The wretched creature Gollum became perhaps the first truly realistic CGI character in the movies, thanks to actor Andy Serkis' voice and motion-capture performance and the army of artists that created nearly 700 sculpted expressions and some 9,000 muscle shapes to bring Gollum to life. □

New Yorkers get their dance on with a tap class to pop music

By ALICIA RANCILIO

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Every Wednesday night, Broadway dancer Beth Nicely spends her one night off from the musical "Chicago" leading a group of enthusiastic New Yorkers in a joyful ritual: Tap dancing.

But this isn't the traditional shuffling and hoofing. She choreographs to pop music and calls her one-hour lessons POP TAP.

"I wanted to make it relevant and reach people that don't know how to tap and that's through pop music," Nicely said recently. "Everyone knows the songs and it's just a cool juxtaposition to put tap with different contemporary songs."

The class began in January 2017 as a way for Nicely to help a group of friends planning to do a tap show. She said she'd choreograph it if they used pop music to up the fun factor. The classes continued beyond the performance date and Nicely said word of mouth led to growing popularity. "I couldn't keep up with the



In this Sept. 19, 2018 photo, dancer Beth Nicely, left, teaches Pop Tap class, a weekly tap dance routine to pop music, in New York.

Associated Press

texts," she said of people asking to join. Now she posts on Instagram and on Facebook when a class is happening and asks those interested to direct message her for details. That's a way to keep it safe and to vet the dancers.

Some tap experience is required. After all, her students have just an hour to learn a complete dance. "I would say in the tap world it's like intermediate level, so you can't just come and be like, 'I can do this.'" The turnout is mostly female

but there are some male tappers who occasionally take part. Nicely said her attendees include other dancers, lawyers, bakers, the vice president of marketing for a restaurant group and moms who used to take dance and need

some "me time."

Dancers and dance teachers visiting New York have also attended while in town, learning about it from social media.

"I think everyone in class will tell you it feels like creating and doing something special and fun," said Nicely. "Moving your feet, relieving stress, getting positive feelings."

Nicely, who is originally from Columbus, Ohio, said the class is also a way for New Yorkers to escape from the hustle and bustle of the city.

"I think living in New York City, it's hard. It's hard to have a community or have a weekly, fun check-in time with the same group of people. It's just nice that it's become that," she said.

"We do class and then we go to my apartment for pizza and wine after or we go to the Mexican place nearby for chips and guacamole."

The regular tappers agree it's a highlight of their week. Also, the price is right. Nicely asks for \$10 to cover the studio cost, assuring "it's not about profit." □

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BURN THE STAGE

RAMI MALEK | LUCY BOYNTON
BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-FRI 4:35
SAT-SUN 1:50 | 4:35
CXC

MON-FRI 6:25 | 9:15
SAT-SUN 3:35 | 6:25 | 9:15

MON-THU 5:25 | 8:15
FRI 5:25 | 8:15 | 11:05
SAT 2:35 | 5:25 | 8:15 | 11:05
SUN 2:35 | 5:25 | 8:15

MACKENZIE FOY | KEIRA KNIGHTLEY
THE NOTORIOUS B.I.G.
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]
MON-THU 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:30
FRI 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SAT 2:35 | 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20 | 11:35
SUN 2:35 | 4:50 | 7:05 | 9:20

MON-FRI 4:25 | 6:35
SAT-SUN 2:15 | 4:25 | 6:35

TIFFANY HADDISH | TIKA SUMPTER
NOBODY'S FOOL [R]
MON-THU 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30
FRI 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30 | 11:55
SAT 2:15 | 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30 | 11:55
SUN 2:15 | 4:40 | 7:05 | 9:30

JAMIE LEE CURTIS | JUDY GREER
HALLOWEEN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R]
MON-THU & SUN 7:20 | 9:40
FRI-SAT 7:20 | 9:40 | 11:55

MON-THU & SUN 8:45
FRI-SAT 8:45 | 11:00

ROWAN ATKINSON | OLGA KURYLENKO
JOHNNY ENGLISH STARRS AGAIN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG]
MON-SUN 3:45 | 5:40 | 7:35 | 9:35

GERARD BUTLER | GARY OLDMAN
HUNTER KILLER [R]
MON-SUN 4:20 | 9:20

TOM HARDY | MICHELLE WILLIAMS
VENOM
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13]
MON-FRI 6:55
SAT-SUN 1:55 | 4:55

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New Taiwan performing arts center billed as largest in world



In this undated handout photo provided Nov. 5, 2018, by the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts, the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts designed by Dutch architect Francine Houben is seen in Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan.

Associated Press

By TAIJING WU

KAOHSIUNG, Taiwan (AP) — A sprawling complex of four theaters billed as the biggest performing arts center in the world has opened in southern Taiwan.

The National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts houses a 1,981-seat concert hall,

a 2,236-seat opera house, a play house and a recital hall under a single roof covering 3.3 hectares (8.2 acres).

The center, which opened last month, was built over eight years at a cost of NT\$10.7 billion (\$350 million) on the site of a former military barracks in Kaohsiung, a southern city of about 2.8 million people.

The design by Dutch architecture firm Mecanoo reflects the port city's tropical location and maritime links. It includes an undulating white roof and a large public space with hoists and other cargo ship features.

"I think what is really unique is this roof, what was inspired by the banyan trees with the crown," said Francine Houben, the creative director of Mecanoo. "I had to create a really new

public space specifically for Taiwan, for Kaohsiung, that catches the wind of the ocean and the ventilation of the tropical space."

The concert hall has the biggest pipe organ in Asia with 9,085 pipes. Built by a German manufacturer, its asymmetric design recalls bamboo.

"I have played many organs both in Taiwan and abroad, but this one is the biggest and the best," said organist Liu Hsin-hung. The center also includes an outdoor amphitheater.

He Wen-jhang, a 62-year-old retired physics and chemistry teacher who lives nearby, said he prefers to the art center to another real estate development. "Coming here to exchange views greatly influences citizens' temperament," He said. □

Godzilla back as animation has human drama, fewer monsters

By YURI KAGEYAMA

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Godzilla is stomping back into theaters as a fire-breathing animated character, though the movie chosen to close this year's Tokyo International Film Festival is more focused on human drama than the monsters that have made the franchise famous.

The two directors of "Godzilla: The Planet Eater" acknowledge that their film is so different it might turn off hard-core fans. But they say that's an intentional attempt to reach out to new audiences.

"We welcome getting bashed by the traditionalists," Hiroyuki Seshita, one of the directors, told The Associated Press last week. "That proves more than anything we succeeded in creating something different."

A mutation caused by nuclear testing, the first Godzilla emerged from the ocean in a 1954 film directed by Ishiro Honda. Godzilla flattened much of Tokyo as crowds fled in terror, and went on to become an eternal symbol of human



In this Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018, photo, film directors Hiroyuki Seshita, right, and Kobun Shizuno, left, pose with voice actors Mamoru Miyano, second from right, Takahiro Sakurai and Godzilla during the opening ceremony of the Tokyo International Film Festival in Tokyo.

Associated Press

fallacy in the atomic age. The latest film completes a three-part animated saga that began last year. It premieres Nov. 3, Godzilla's official birthday, the date the first film was released.

Seshita and co-director Kobun Shizuno said that rather than simply transferring the well-known tale into a computer animation, they have focused on what they call Shakespearean "human

drama." They tackle complex issues, including the meaning of religion, in a futuristic post-apocalyptic universe.

While Godzilla still has its screech and menacingly

gigantic shape, it hardly engages in battles with other monsters, a trademark of the mega-series from Toho Co.

"We kept all that is Godzilla-like — its design and how it's portrayed on film. We have kept its essence," said Seshita, who has served as art director of the "Final Fantasy" movies.

Although some viewers may find the story rather complicated, Seshita said the film chose to interpret the Godzilla saga as what he called "a kind of animism," or a godlike force that is bigger than human existence, a perspective he said was integral to Japanese culture and storytelling.

The hero is a doe-eyed, rock-star-like Japanese man who is selflessly determined to reclaim planet Earth, which has been left in shambles from Godzilla's havoc.

Humans have been relegated to wandering around in space, surviving in a gigantic spaceship that's factory-like and sterile, unlike the lush greenness that was once home. □

'Evening in Paradise': more stories by Lucia Berlin

By ANN LEVIN

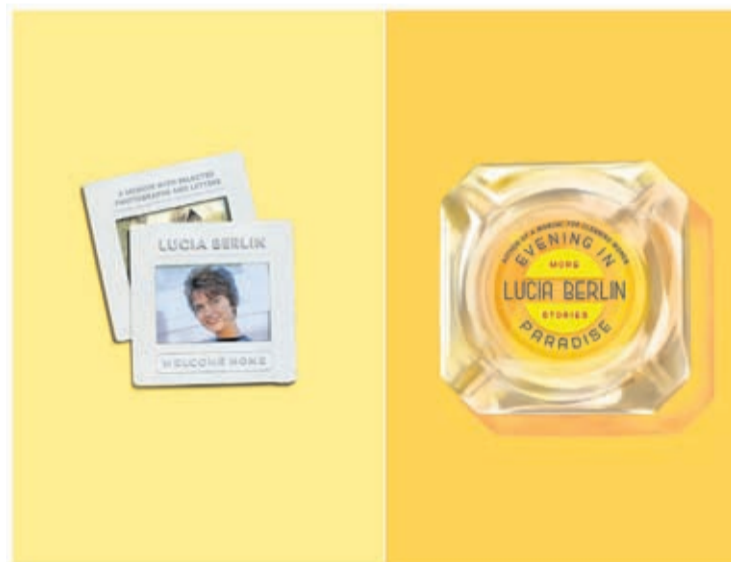
"Evening in Paradise: More Stories" (Farrar, Straus and Giroux), by Lucia Berlin:

In 2015, the posthumous publication of the short story collection "A Manual for Cleaning Women" made its author Lucia Berlin a household name, at least in literary households.

Now her publisher has brought out a new collection, "Evening in Paradise," along with an evocative memoir, "Welcome Home," that Berlin was working on when she died in 2004 at age 68.

The stories, best described as autobiographical fiction, feature an interchangeable cast of characters who are stand-ins for Berlin and her entourage of friends, family and lovers.

The daughter of a mining engineer, Berlin lived a peripatetic life, growing up in Western mining towns



This combination photo of book cover images released by Farrar, Straus and Giroux shows "Welcome Home," left, and "Evening in Paradise," by Lucia Berlin.

Associated Press

and spending her teenage years in Santiago, Chile. The memoir lists almost three dozen houses she called home, one of which she burned down.

One of the best stories, "Andado," focuses on a

14-year-old girl who is sexually assaulted by one of her father's business associates in Chile.

When the story opens, she and her girlfriends are typical teenagers, practicing "kissing by kissing the medi-

cine cabinet. ... Where did noses go? That's how much they knew about love."

In real life Berlin was married three times (twice to jazz musicians), struggled with alcoholism and worked a variety of low-end jobs to raise her four sons, mostly by herself.

These circumstances are reflected in many of the stories, in which variously named female protagonists rise above their precarious circumstances because of their grit, humor, intelligence and tender feelings — not just for their lovers and children but for the world itself.

In "La Barco de la Ilusion," the main character, Maya, lives with her husband and three kids in a thatched-roof house on the edge of a Mexican jungle.

"Just before dawn the roosters crowed and at the first light a thousand

laughing gulls flew past the house upriver. Flocks of parrots flashed green dazzling against the cool gray coconuts."

Dozens of passages offer up similarly vivid images of sky, weather, birds and flowers. She does humans well, too, with a sharp eye for social, economic and regional differences.

Her regulars tend to be artsy, well-read types, struggling financially while writing poems or playing jazz — and hitting the sauce or pills or heroin pretty hard. "Decca was the only female alcoholic Laura knew that didn't hide her liquor," Berlin writes in "The Wives."

Some of the 22 stories here are wonderful; others nothing more than a collage of shimmering images. All feature her distinctive voice, which operates in the space between free verse and prose. □

Long trip: Psychedelic advocate nears goal of legal ecstasy

By **MATTHEW PERRONE**

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Growing up amid the tumult of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War, Rick Doblin says he became convinced that humanity was "crazy" and "inherently destructive." As a teenager, he came to see the mind-expanding effects of psychedelics — including LSD and magic mushrooms — as the antidote to mankind's inner demons.

He set out to prove it. And now, after 32 years of false starts, setbacks and regulatory hurdles, he has brought MDMA — the illegal, all-night party drug also known as ecstasy — to the brink of medical legitimacy.

The Food and Drug Administration has labeled the drug a potential "breakthrough" for post-traumatic stress disorder and cleared late-stage studies of up to 300 patients. The studies are to be conducted by Doblin's nonprofit group dedicated to promoting mind-altering drugs, the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, or MAPS. Researchers will begin screening patients this month.

The goal is to win FDA approval by 2021. MDMA would become the first psychedelic drug — currently in the same ultra-restrictive category as heroin and cocaine — to make the leap to prescription medicine. Doblin does not plan to stop there. His aim is the legalization of all psychedelics for recreational use by 2035.

"Psychedelics have been used for thousands of years for healing and spiritual purposes," says Doblin, 64. "I thought my contribution would be to bring them back."

MAPS' work is part of a resurgence of interest into the therapeutic potential of psychedelics, a field that captivated researchers in the 1950s and 1960s before the government ban on LSD and other hallucinogens slammed the door shut in 1970.

"This field was so taboo it was essentially erased from



Rick Doblin poses for a portrait in Vista, Calif., on Aug. 15, 2018. The founder and director of the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, or MAPS, Doblin is pushing for the therapeutic potential of psychedelics including MDMA, best known by its street name, ecstasy.

Associated Press

the history books," says Stephen Ross, a New York University psychiatrist who is studying psilocybin, the ingredient in magic mushrooms, for depression and alcohol addiction.

Ross and other researchers are largely funded by the Heffter Research Institute, the other psychedelic nonprofit in the field. But Heffter executives adamantly oppose recreational use of psychedelics. They say the drugs are too risky to be used without professional supervision. "Talking about full legalization of all psychedelics makes quite a number of people uncomfortable," says David Nichols, co-founder of Heffter

and a retired pharmacology professor at Purdue University. "But that's Rick, he's got his base of people who give him a lot of money because they want to see him kick down the doors of government regulation."

SPECTRUM OF SUPPORT

Funding MAPS and the MDMA studies has meant relentless fundraising, more than \$70 million over the years from by a wide array of wealthy backers.

"Rick has this beautiful vision of healing the cultural divide of the sixties; having veterans and counterculture icons coming together," says David Bronner, CEO — Cosmic Engagement Officer — of Dr. Bron-

ner's Magic Soaps, the organic brand known for its quirky labels. Bronner has given \$3.1 million to MAPS since 2005 and currently chairs its board of directors. Earlier this year Rebekah Mercer, the billionaire Republican and co-owner of Breitbart, pledged \$1 million to fund the PTSD trials.

"America's veterans deserve the very best care," Mercer said in a statement announcing the grant.

If prescription MDMA is ever approved, revenue would flow to a pharmaceutical company entirely owned by MAPS. According to the company's charter, profits would fund research into new uses for MDMA and

other psychedelics.

BACK TO A PSYCHEDELIC FUTURE

The small studies published by MAPS and Heffter are dwarfed by research conducted roughly a half-century ago. Between 1950 and the mid-1960s more than 1,000 papers were published documenting 40,000 patients receiving LSD and other psychedelics for conditions like depression and addiction.

Only later would psychedelics become intertwined with the dayglow hippie culture of the 1960s and figures like Timothy Leary, the ex-Harvard professor who promoted psychedelics as a pseudo-religion.

MDMA had its own medical history before being adopted by the electronic rave culture of the 1990s, thanks to its ability to trigger intense feelings of euphoria, intimacy and connection.

The drug was discovered in 1912 by a German drug-maker researching chemicals to control bleeding. A chemical cousin, MDA, became a drug of abuse in the late 1960s, producing a combination of hallucinations and intensified emotions. Users dubbed it the "love drug."

MDMA was largely forgotten until a handful of psychotherapists reproduced it in the late 1970s to enhance therapy sessions.

Doblin first met some of the drug's proponents at the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, California in 1982, a seaside mecca for New Age teachers and seekers. In college at the time, Doblin became convinced of the drug's power to enhance communication and healing after an MDMA session with his girlfriend. His original plan was to become a therapist working with MDMA. But the federal government's 1985 ban on the substance pushed him into activism instead.

George Greer, co-founder of Heffter, was among the West Coast psychiatrists who first prescribed then-legal MDMA to treat anxiety and other issues, including domestic problems between couples. □



Lauren Pestikas sits as she receives an infusion of the drug ketamine during a 45-minute session at an outpatient clinic in Chicago on July 25, 2018.

Associated Press